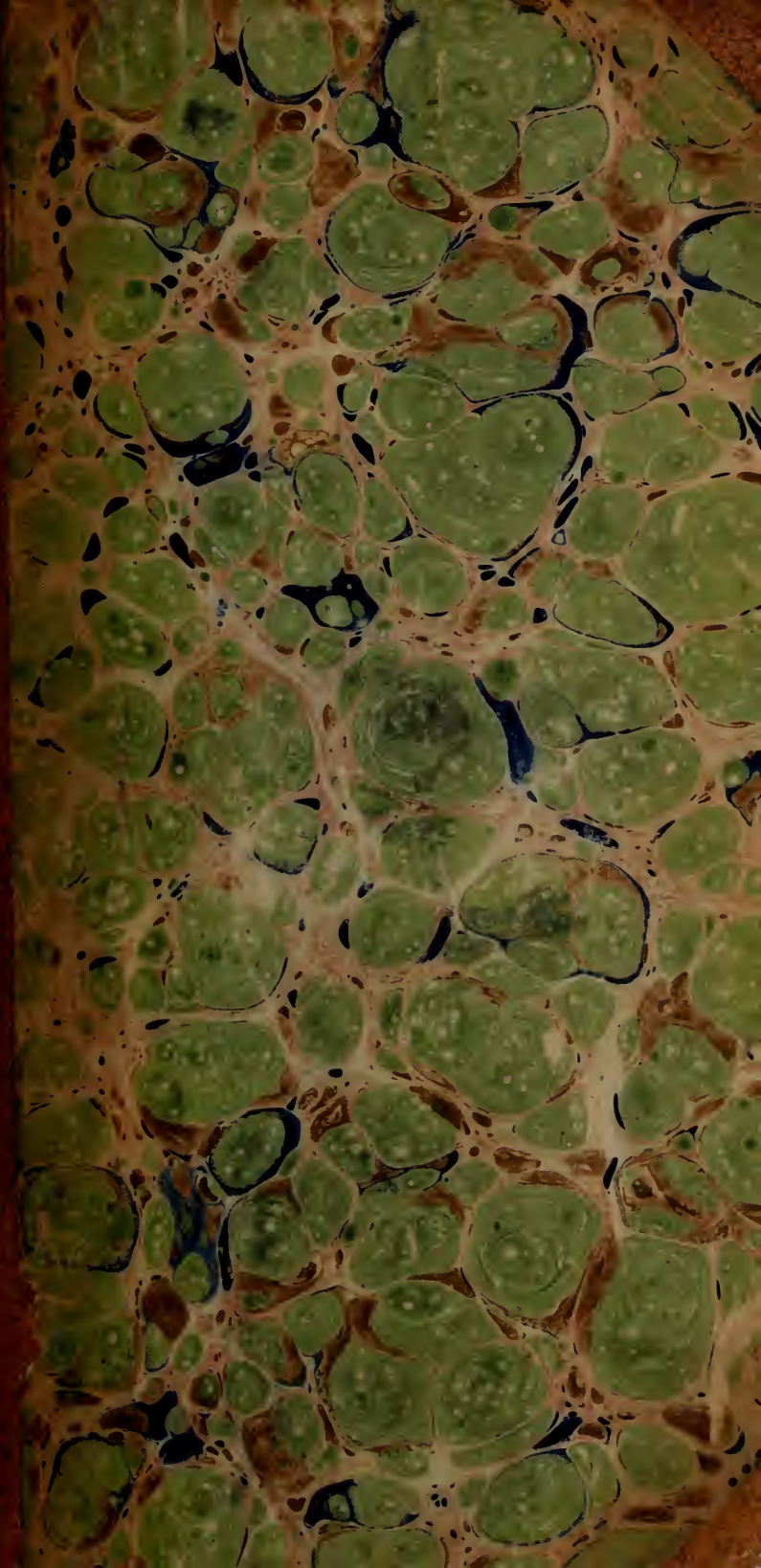

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THE

UNITED BRETHREN'S

MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCER,

AND

RELIGIOUS MISCELLANY:

CONTAINING THE MOST RECENT ACCOUNTS RELATING TO THE UNITED BRETHREN'S MISSIONS AMONG THE HEATHEN; WITH OTHER INTERESTING COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE RECORDS OF THAT CHURCH.

No. 10 SECOND QUARTER, 1848. Vol. IX.

I.

(*From the Periodical Accounts.*)

Memoir of the Life of Br. Wolf Caspar Abraham Von Gersdorf, Senior Civilis of the Unity of the Brethren, who departed this life at Barby, January 2nd, 1784.

The subject of this memoir was born at Siegersdorf, on the Quais, in Upper Lusatia, April 7th, 1704. His father was Wolf Caspar Von Gersorf, Lord of Siegersdorf, Tschierna, &c., whom he lost before he was two yers old, and his mother, Ursula Catharina Von Lœwen, of the the house of Schœnberg. He received an education suitable to his rank, first at the academy at Liegnitz, and then at the University of Leipzig, after which he made the tour of Europe, in order to enlarge his knowledge of the world. In the year 1727, he repaired to England to attend the coronation of George II.; thence he travelled through France and Italy, visiting the most celebrated cities of those countries, and observing all that was most worthy of notice in them; and in 1729, returned home by way of Venice and Vienna. Here, after marrying a young lady of noble family, Helena Sophia Von Landskron, he remained on his paternal estate till the year 1731, when he repaired to Dresden, and devoted himself to the service of the state. In 1732, he received an appointment, to be aulic councillor and councillor of justice, and in 1737, was nominated an acting member of the Privy Council. He was now on the high road to fortune, according to wordly estimation. But the Lord had other views with him, and sought access to his heart when he was little expecting

it. The first impression made on his mind, of the necessity of turning to the Lord for his soul's salvation, occurred during a visit to Silesia, at his cousin's, Mr. von Kreckwitz, who was a child of God. The sermons of the Rev. John Andrew Rothe, of Tonnendorf were also a means of blessing to him. He now began to seek for salvation in good earnest; but it was not till two years later, when on a visit to Herrnhut, in 1739, that he attained to gospel-clearness, learned to know the Saviour as his Redeemer, and to turn to Him as a helpless sinner, and found grace and forgiveness of sins in His blood. A letter to his consort, from Herrnhut, dated June 20th, 1740, contains the following reference to this event:—

"A year ago this week, my Saviour, of His free grace, gave me new life, and shed abroad His love in my heart. I have not for a single moment, repented that I yielded to His invitation, and became His property. His yoke is easy and His burden is light, and I wish to remain with Him in eternity. He is a good, a gracious, and loving Master. The more we learn to know Him, the more will the heart be inflamed with love to Him. I could melt in tears, when I think of the unspeakable love and compassion which He has shown me during the year past. Before, I was like a corpse beginning to putrify; yet, I was not too vile for Him, for His loving heart induced Him to bear me with merciful patience, till at length I gave ear to Him, and sought His favour. This took place about two years ago. But how did I act? Instead of allowing Him to help me, and to wash me from my pollution in His blood, I thought to help myself, and tried—as you are aware—a variety of means for this purpose, good in themselves, had they only sprung from the right source. Here, too, however, my faithful Shepherd followed me, and sought to bring me, his wandering sheep, into the only way which leads to life. And this was blessedly accomplished last year, at this very time and place—His heart yearned over me, and He would no longer withhold from me the enjoyment of true happiness. In short, He gave me first to feel my unbelief, and the dear price which my redemption cost Him; and when I turned to Him in simplicity, and cast myself upon His mercy, I found peace with God, and a title to the adoption of sons of everlasting happiness, in His wounds. And, though at first I was often shy and timid in my approach to Him, this gradually vanished, and I attained a clear conviction of my election of grace. O Lamb once slain, to Thee be thanksgiving, honour, and praise, to all eternity!"

On his first visit to Herrnhut, in June, 1739, he was so powerfully affected by the grace then prevailing there, that he gave himself, with soul and body, to the Lord, and desired nothing more, than to be able to spend all his days in the bosom of that Church, in which he had learned to know his Saviour.

His letter to his wife bear powerful testimony to the gracious

work which was carrying on in his heart, and the impression made on his mind by the brotherly love which prevailed in Herrnhut, and all that he saw and heard there. Thus he writes from Herrnhut, June 30th, 1739 :—

" With regard to my visit here, I can assure you, that I have never in my life had so happy and refreshing a season. The Spirit of Christ manifestedly dwells here; there is *one* heart and *one* mind. I never engage in prayer, but my soul feels the power of the Spirit, and my love to the Lord grows stronger every day.—My Saviour has indeed shewn much mercy to me, miserable sinner. The power of His blood frequently melts me even to tears. I am my own no longer, but am determined to follow my Saviour under cross, reproach, and shame, and heartily to love my dear Brethren and Sisters, who have a sincere affection for me, and support me powerfully by their prayers. Happy should I esteem myself, could I fix my residence among them. Nowhere else is there so constant a communion of spirit with the Lord; they speak with him as confidentially as a man converses with his friend."

He adds the following regarding the occasion of this visit :—

" Sunday week I wrote to my dear Count Zinzendorf, and this was followed by an irresistible impulse to come hither on a visit for a few days. On Monday and Tuesday I was very uneasy, fearing that some hindrance would present itself. But the Lord heard my prayer, and, having obtained leave of absence for five days, I came here on the Wednesday. When my term was expired, the carriage which I had ordered from Bautzen came to fetch me home; but my Saviour held me fast, and I sent it back empty, and wrote for permission to stay another week.

He continues, in the same letter:—"Believe me, it is a blessed thing to serve so loving, gentle, compassionate, and gracious a Master, as our adorable Saviour. I have as yet experienced but little of the efficacy of His atoning blood, yet I am happier than I ever was before. What shall I feel when he grants me still larger measures of His love; surely my very heart will melt before Him! O Jesus, Jesus! come soon and vouchsafe this grace to me, poor sinner." Regarding the members of the congregation, he adds—" I feel a brother's love to them all, and they return my affection with no less sincerity. The meanest craftsman amongst them can pray and converse to better purpose, than many a professed clergyman. In a word, the power with which these people speak is astonishing."

July 7th, he writes amongst the rest—" I am still here, the prisoner of the Lord. Oh! what looks of grace have I, vile worm, enjoyed from my Lord, since I came hither. He is resolved to have my soul: of this I am convinced. The drawings of His grace are too strong to be resisted, and who would not come at the first call, to so loving and adorable a Lord? To be acquainted with

Him, exceeds all imaginable pleasures of this earth. With Him, the poorest fare would be a feast. I find a mighty difference between my present and my former state. I live in constant intercourse of spirit with my Saviour, and if He withdraws himself but a little, I presently feel a want."

In November, 1739, he paid a visit at Jauer, to see Ernst Julius Von Seidlitz, who was then imprisoned there for the sake of the Gospel.

Desirous of enjoying the priviledges of a congregation of Jesus, he requested leave of absence for half a year in the first instance, and came to Marienborn, near Frankfort, in the beginning of August 1740. Here he attended the conferences then going on, and assisted in the correspondence. All his letters of this period testify of the delight he felt at being again in the midst of the congregation, and permitted to join in the Lord's service. "I, poor dust," he writes, "am truly happy here. I desire to know nothing but Jesus and his cross."

His consort followed him to Marienborn the same month, and they were both received into the congregation. He had already partaken more than one once of the Lord's Supper, both at Herrnhut and Marienborn. He gave expression to the gratitude which he felt for the grace and spiritual enjoyment vouchsafed to him, in a number of hymns, some of which are still favourites, from their simplicity and fervour.*

In 1741, he spent some time at Geneva, along with Count Zinzendorf and his consort, and several other Brethren and Sisters. Here he had an opportunity of giving to numerous individuals of different ranks, a reason of the hope that was in him, which he did with a warm heart and an impressive manner; nor was his testimony without fruit. On one occasion he was visited by two gentlemen of respectable appearance, who, without giving their address, questioned him as to the right way of salvation. He told them that all depended on faith in Jesus crucified, and the mercy He dispenses to penitent sinners, and that whoever takes refuge with Him, will soon be convinced of His love and mercy, that he will glow with love in return, and firmly resolve to give all to Him, and avoid whatever would interfere with His fellowship. They expressed their perfect approbation of his views, and led him further to remarks, that the particular form of religion was of no consequence in this respect, as all, in every Christian denomination, who sincerely believed in the Saviour, and acknowledged His atoning sacrifice as the sole ground of their salvation, were true children of God. He afterwards learned, that his visi-

* See Nos. 599, 641, 780, and 1377, in the German hymn-book; and No. 416,—"We sinners, void of good;" No. 418,—"Thy blood, Thy blood, the deed hath wrought," &c.;—No. 419, v. 2,—"Thy blood was shed for me, I know," in the English hymn-book.

tors were a Spanish Count and an Abbe in disguise, who were on their way to the election of a new Emperor.

Regarding his stay at Geneva, he writes, Feb. 24th, 1741 :—"The Lord is with me, and I can testify with cheerfulness of the power of his covenant-blood. Sometimes I am engaged in these conversations from early morning till late in the day. I am quite in my element; the more I have to do, the more I wish to do, and nothing comes amiss to me, if only it be a labour for the Lord. He gives me grace, and strength, and comfort in my work; and in His death and sufferings my soul finds satisfying nourishment."

Reproach and calumny were the consequence of his faithful testimony, but he bore them gladly for Jesus' sake. He writes, on March 15th, 1741 ;—"The Lord has granted me a number of souls, and has magnified His grace. This has produced such irritation against me in the minds of many, that yesterday the people hooted me in the public street, and assailed me with much abuse. As I was going from one house to another, a large crowd had gatherd, waiting to pelt me with stones. Happily I was accompanied by two Genevan brethren, who took me between them, which saved me from the violence of the mob, as they did not wish to hurt their townsmen; but they shook their fists at me, and vented their rage in hideous yells. The Lord protected me, and therefore they could do me no harm. It humbles me to think that I should be counted worthy to bear reproach for my Saviour's sake."

He left Geneva, May 16th, 1741, and spent the summer in Upper Lausatia, where he remained with his consort till the end of the year. Here, on his repeated request, he at length obtained leave to retire from the public service, and rejoiced that he could live undisturbed in the midst of the congregation. For some years back, his outward concerns had fallen into great disorder, which led in the issue to the loss of his large property. In this, too, he recognized the gracious leading of his Lord, as appears from a letter of June 29th, 1740, where he says :—

"There is much that appears wonderful to us in the beginning, because we always look at the present and the temporary; but the result makes us ashamed of our ignorance, and clearly shows the wise providence of our Lord. Of this I am myself a living instance; for though I have been unfortunate as to my worldly circumstances, yet the event demonstrates that my temporal losses have been of the utmost benefit to my soul." Nor, did he find any difficulty in accommodating himself to his altered circumstances. Thus he remarks, in a letter from Geneva, February 10th, 1741 :—"I have of late been my own servant, and prefer being so, as far as possible. I have long enough been waited on in superfluity, and may now be content to wait on myself

In December, the same year, he travelled with his wife to Herrnhaag, and in the following January to Holland. After vis-

iting at Herrendyk and Amsterdam, they repaired in February to the Hague, the post assigned them. Here he was commissioned to form an acquaintance with some members of the Government, and give them information as to the doctrine and constitution of the Brethren's Church, in the hope that, by this means, the way to the East Indies, hitherto closed against our Brethren, might be opened for their proclamation of the Gospel to the poor Heathen. Accordingly he had various conversations with different persons in office, and had at the same time an oppertunity of directing many an inquirer after salvation to the only source of happiness.

In the spring of 1743, he was agreeably surprised by a visit from Count Zinzendorf, who was returning from America, and whom he followed to Herrnhaag in May. Soon after he attended the Synod held at Hirschberg, in Voigtland. Thence he repaired to Berlin and Breslau, at which places, as deputy of the Brethren's Church, he entered into various negotiations with the ministers Cocceii and Count Von Muenchow. He was successful in both his objects, which were the liberation of some Brethren who had been pressed into military service, and the obtaining leave to found a settlement at Neusaltz.

He returned to Holland in the spring of 1745, and from thence went over to England on business in company of Frederic Neisser. He was present the same year at the Synod at Marienborn, where he and Frederic von Watteville were consecrated the first Seniores Civiles of the Brethren's Church. Thence he proceeded to Silesia, where he was engaged in settling the affairs of the congregations in that province with the Government. Returning next to Marienborn, he attended the Synod held at Zeyzt, in 1746, after which he went with a company of fifty Brethren and Sisters to England, and returned to Wetteravia towards the end of the year. In 1747 and 1748, he was again engaged, as deputy of the Brethren's Church, in diplomatic transactions with the ministers and other authorities at Breslau, Berlin and Neusaltz, as also in Holland, where he endeavoured to procure the free use of the church which the Brethren had bought at Haarlem, but without success. In 1749, he was one of the four plenipotentiaries of the Brethren's Unity, in the negotiations with the British Parliament, which led to the celebrated act, by which it was acknowledged as "an ancient Protestant Episcopal Church," and certain civil privileges were conferred on its members at home and in the colonies.* In 1750 he travelled to Copenhagen on business relating to the Unity, and from thence to Sweden, where however, owing to the excitement then prevailing against the

* The Act in question, 22 Geo. II., chap. 20, bears the title "An Act for encouraging the People known by the Name of the 'Unitas Fratrum,' or 'United Brethren,' to settle in his Majesty's Colonies in America." It received the Royal assent on the 6th of June, 1749, after full discussion in committees of both Houses of Parliament. See Acta Fratrum in Anglia, 1749.

Brethren, he was forbidden to remain a single night. He attended the Synod at Barby the same year, and was appointed provincial in Holland along with Frederic Neisser. In the beginning of 1752, he was called to London by Count Zinzendorf, and appointed chancellor of the advocacy of the Brethren's Unity. He continued to hold these offices till 1755, dividing his time between Zeyst and London. In the spring of 1756, he repaired to Neuwied, in order to treat with its Government about the establishment of a congregation there, after which he resumed his duties, as provincial of the Dutch congregations till 1760. On the departure of Count Zinzendorf, being well acquainted with the views of that blessed servant of God regarding the work which had been so long confided to his care, and had so amazingly prospered under it, he was nominated a member of the Special Conference entrusted with the general oversight of the Brethren's Unity till the Synod of 1764. The Directing Board being then distributed into various departments, he became a very valuable and active member of the College of Syndicates. In 1765 he went to Zeyst, in commission from the Synod, along with the Brn. John Frederic Reichel, Peter Boehler, and Ranzau, to arrange the archives of the Unity then lodged in that congregation. They spent a year and a half in this laborious work, in which he took a full share, bringing to the task his wonted faithfulness and perseverance, aided by the extensive knowledge gained by his former experience. Since the Synod of 1769, when all the business belonging to the direction of the Brethren's Unity was united in a single Board, which received the name of the Elders' Conference of the Unity, he was a worthy member of it till his end.

In November, 1779, he celebrated his fifty years' marriage jubilee. This Union was blessed with eleven children, four of whom survived him. He enjoyed almost uninterrupted health to an advanced age. Towards the end of December, 1783, he was attacked by a complaint in the chest, which, however, was so gradual. that he expressed his opinion of its serious nature only the day before his dissolution. On the morning of January 2nd, his Brethren of the Unity's Elders' Conference being all assembled round his bed, the blessing of the Lord was imparted to him, after a fervent prayer by his early friend Spangenberg, and soon after his waiting spirit was released. He was cheerful and collected to the last. His pilgrimage below lasted eighty years, all but three months.

The character of our late Brother shone with peculiar attractiveness in the time of his first love. His heart lived on the word of atonement, and he loved much. as having had much forgiven. His gratitude to the Lord was manifested by his readiness to do whatsoever he could in his service. He bore witness with assurance, of the grace of God in Christ which he had himself experienced, and in which he had found such happiness, and the Lord

richly owned his testimony. The labours in which he subsequently engaged were manifold and often difficult, but he entered upon them with great alacrity, and displayed unwearied activity in them, even in old age; nor did he flag till his last illness put a period to his work below. He was not at all inclined to look at the dark side of things, and thus spared himself much needlees perplexity. His uncommon cheerfulness of spirit, which had supported him when things wore the most gloomy aspect, and those around him were greatly cast down, did not leave him to the last moment of his life. Even in his last short but severe illness, this characteristic feature was delightfully evident. He loved and was beloved by all who knew him. Whoever saw him and his dear partner in their every day life, could not but be edified by the cordiality, humility, tenderness, and affability of this venerable pair, who had now shared joy and sorrow with each other for upwards of fifty-three years. It was pleasing, too, to see with what entire devotedness he had given himself up to the service of the Lord and of the Brethren's Church, and how he looked uninterruptedly to Jesus, living in the constant enjoyment of His merits till his happy dissolution.

II.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Extract of the Diary of Genadendal for the year 1846.

Jan. 11*th.*—On this and the preceding Sunday, as well as on *New Year's Day*, the conflux of hearers was so great, that preaching was held in both church and school-room at the same time.—After the preaching, was the interment of a child of four years old, which had been burnt to death, owing to the negligence of the parents, in leaving it alone in the house.

Feb. 2*nd.*—An aged communicant, Charlotte Toa, departed.—She was carried off when young, as a slave, from the east coast of Africa. Her master sold her children away from her, and she saw them no more. On the passing of the Emancipation Act, she removed hither with her aged husband, and was baptized, and, in time, admitted to the holy communion, a privilege for which she was very thankful. After the death of her husband, two years ago, she entered into our service, and shewed great fidelity. Her heart clave to the Lord, and she spoke fulness to Him. At times, indeed, her spirits were depressed by her bodily weakness; but this soon passed away, and she enjoyed fellowship of spirit with her Saviour.

On the 4*th*, was the confirmation of twenty-five persons, who, on this solemn occasion, gave themselves up to the Lord as His property. On the 8th, we partook together of the holy commu-

tion. At the previous speaking, a brother, who had a bad leg, said, "Sometimes I think I must stay at home to-day, but when the bell rings, I think I will try to get to church once more, and the Lord gives me strength for the occasion." Another complained, with tears, "My love to the Lord is often very weak, how much greater is His love to us?" The same day, seven men and eleven women were baptized, under a powerful sense of the Lord's presence.

April 4th.—We entered on the *Passion-Week*, imploring the Lord to bless the contemplation of His sufferings and death, and inflame our hearts anew with love to Him who has loved us unto death. Many of the meetings had to be held both in the church and school, as the former could not contain the hearers. This has occurred in former years on festival occasions, but this year, with the exception of two or three Sundays, we have been obliged ever since New Year to have preaching in the school-room, to accommodate those who could not find room in the church.

On th 5th we celebrated the first anniversary of our Missionary Association, with a love-feast. Though the amount of contributions is not large, yet the association has been a means of much blessing, many have been stirred up by our monthly meetings, to take a livelier interest in the extension of our Saviour's Kingdom. The subscriptions of our 414 members have amounted to 20*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.* We pledged ourselves anew to do what we could in our several stations, by word, walk, and faithful intercessions, to advance His blessed cause.

The speaking with our communicants was very encouraging. There were, this time, no differences to settle, which is not ofen the case, and the desire to live to the Lord seems to have been powerfully renewed by the meditations of the week. Many spoke of the blessing which had rested on their family worship. An old man complained, with tears, that he was sometimes troubled by doubts regarding the truth of the incarnation of the Son of God.—Another said, "As I lay awake one night in bed, a voice seemed to say to me, 'Thou hast not the strength of an ant for working out thine own righteousness.' Some days after, as I was taking my lunch in the field were I was working, an ant caught my eye, which made many a vain attempt to carry off a scrap of meat that I had dropt. The voice at once came to my recollection, and I hung my head for shame, though no one saw me." One of the new people, who is unable to walk, and cannot, therefore, come to church, much as she desires it, said, "I do not know much, but I know that I must believe if I would be saved, and that he who believes not, will be lost; I believe that my Saviour has atoned for my sins."

On the 9th, *Maundy-Thursday*, we partook of the Lord's Supper with our communicants. Major Barnes, the magistrate of Caledon, and several ladies from the neighbourhood, joined us in

celebrating the Passion festival, and assured us that the meetings had been blessed to their hearts.

On the 28th, we received the important intelligence, that hostilities with the Caffres had commenced. We felt ourselves powerfully called upon, to commend the congregation at Shiloh to the special protection of the Lord in their exposed situation.

May 1*st*, Commandant Linde arrived, and all our men, of age for bearing arms, were summoned to appear in the square. He took down the names of 140, who were to march on the 7th inst. One of our overseers, John Botha, who has already been thrice on service, was appointed sergeant. Those who were absent, were likewise to be enrolled as they came home.

(Then follow the particulars respecting the valedictory services, and the departure of the Hottentot levies for the frontier, which have already been given in Br. Kœlbing's letter of July 12, 1846.)

On the 8*th*, we spoke with our communicants, previous to the participation of the Lord's Supper. It was evident, that the war and the enlistment had made a deep impression on all their minds, and that they regarded these troubles as a chastisement from the Lord, for their indifference to His word. An old man said, "My son, the only staff of my old age has left me. I could not bear to see him go, but went into the fields, and begged the Lord, to take the heavy thoughts out of my mind, and He did so." Some, who had borne arms themselves, said, they knew from experience, that God's word was more valued after being deprived of it for a season. Another communicant, Augustus Klein, said, "I was on the mountains burning charcoal, and was thinking over the calamities, when all at once it became clear to me, that the blame lies with ourselves. For God has caused His precious word to be plainly and powerfully proclaimed among us, and too many of us have trodden it under our feet. Now, therefore, He has drawn out His sword against us. If all the people of the land should march against the Caffres, they could not repulse them, unless God were with them. But if our people, who set out yesterday, call on God for His help, He will have mercy on them." "I can say," he added, "that I love our Saviour, but not as He loved me, for He died for me out of love. God, who made heaven and earth by His word, who bears them in His hand, without feeling any weight, this almighty God became a man for me, and died for me on the cross. For this I am too unthankful. I love Him, it is true, and think of Him day and night; but not such a burning love as He deserves, I feel not."

On the 22*nd*, was an interesting examination of the girls' school, at which 126 of them were present. Those who had been most diligent, were presented with pen-knives, scisssors, and other articles which Sr. Heinrich had brought for the purpose from her pupils in the Boarding School at Gnadau. Those who understood English also received tracts in that language. Sr. Heinrich also

brought a number of letters from her former pupils, addressed to the girls of Genadendal, exhorting them very affectionately to love the Saviour, and speaking of the happiness of living in intercourse of spirit with Him. Several of our girls have written in reply by Br. and Sr. Lemmertz.

We kept the 28*th*, in common with most of our fellow-Christians in the colony, as a day of humiliation and prayer, on account of the present distresses, humbling ourselves under the hand of the Lord, and beseeching Him to restore peace to the land, and make the war tend to the increase of religion amongst us, and to the extension of His kingdom amongst the Caffres themselves. — Br. Teutsch preached at Kopjes-Kasteel, at the special request of the colonists in that neighbourhood. The auditories both there and at Genadendal were overflowing, and a very devotional spirit prevailed.

On the 11*th* Br. Kœlbing, by request, attended the funeral of our aged neighbour, Hans Frederic Badenhorst, and gave an address. He has lived near us more than fifty years, and has always been on friendly terms with the Missionaries. He frequently declared, that the meetings which he attended here had been greatly blessed to him. He has left a numerous offspring of children and grandchildren behind him.

On the 30*th*, a girl of six years of age was burnt to death.— The mother had gone to church, leaving her and the other children in the house. Her brother, a little older than herself, having in vain endeavoured to extinguish the flames, as her clothes caught fire, ran away in a fright. She was so injured, that she died next morning. Before her death, she said to her brother— "To-day, I shall not go to Mynheer's school, I am going to our Saviour's school."

Aug. 8*th*.—The widower, Jacob Arend, was released from his long and severe sufferings. Since the end of last year, his lower limbs have been paralized, in addition to which, he had much to suffer from Rheumatism. His only son was with the regiment, yet he bore his sufferings with great patience. He had been an inhabitant of Genadendal from childhood; but he acknowledged, with contrition, that he had left his first love, and lived for years in lukewarmness and indifference. But the Lord, he said, had, at his earnest prayer, assured him, that He had pardoned him this sin also, so that he could look forward to his end with joy.

On the 8*th*, Br. Kœelbing went to preach at Caledon on Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon. By the blessing of the Lord on the Rev. Mr. Knobel's labours, a numerous congregation of coloured people has been collected there, which is also joined by many whites.

We had here a confirmation of three men and seven women, who were deeply impressed on the occasion. One of them said, she could not express what mercy our Saviour had shown her. She

often went into the fields, to be alone with Him, and pour out her heart before Him. When she lay down at night, it sometimes seemed, as if He were speaking with her, so that she could not sleep, but spent the time in communing with Him. A brother said: "I am by nature sinful and passionate, but I find that none are too bad for the Saviour; yea, He has died for the vilest."

On the 9*th*, a handsome brazen chandelier with six branches, cast by Br. Nauhaus, was lighted for the first time. It is a great ornament to our church.

On the 17*th*, we celebrated a joyful children's festival with our large choir of little ones, the largest, probably, in any of our congregations at home or abroad. About 600 children were present. Might their best Friend succeed in drawing the hearts of all to Himself.

Our people, along with those from Elim and Zuurbraek, form a Hottentot corps, under the command of Capt. Hogg, divided into three companies. Their officers give them an excellent testimony for courage and good conduct; and though they have been in various engagements and services of danger, and have captured many hundred head of cattle, only one of them had hitherto been wounded, which is a matter of no small thankfulness to God.—They themselves write frequently to their wives; one post brought sixty letters. This is always a joyful occasion here; friends and neighbours assemble to hear their contents, and then they pass from house to house. They ascribe their preservation hitherto to the prayers of the congregation in their behalf. The general contents of these letters are, thanksgivings to the Lord for His preservation, and a request for our continued prayers, with numberless greeting to all their acquaintances.

31*st*.—At the Mission-Conference, the Brethren and Sisters who had been engaged in the general speaking with the different classes of the congregation, spoke with gratitude to the Lord, of the traces of a work of grace which they had observed. All were not, indeed, equally confirmed in the faith and love of the gospel; but all, with few exceptions, gave them the impression, that they loved God's word, and earnestly desired to be the Saviours property. Many spoke of the blessing which the Lord had laid on their family-worship in the evening; others promised to commence the practice.

(*To be continued.*)

Extract of a Letter from Br. L. Teutsch.

"Dear Brother, Genadendal, Aug. 6, 1847.

"The prospect of peace with the Caffres seems, I regret to say, nearly as distant and uncertain as ever. The Governor, Sir Hen-

ry Pottinger, is still at Graham's Town, making preparations for a renewed assault on the enemy, which we trust may be attended with the desired results, and that a lasting peace may be secured by the Divine blessing. From our three congregations in these parts, nearly 200 Hottentots are again being draughted to the frontier,—all volunteers, who have taken service under Capt. Hogg. Genadendal furnishes 114, Groenekloof 47, and Elim 38 men, who are all ready to start. A proposal has been made, originating with the recruits themselves, that a Missionary should accompany them, as chaplain ; and if circumstances are such as to admit of it, we shall not stand in the way of its being acted upon."

MOSQUITIA.

York, Feb. 21*st*, 1848.

Dear Brother ;—

In reply to your kind favour, I send you some account of my visit to Musquitia, in company of Br. G. Pfeiffer. I shall endeavour to relate the principal items of event as they occurred in succession ; and trust that whatever appears trivial to myself, may not be altogether uninteresting to your readers.

Having been advised to hasten our departure from Jamaica, in order, if possible, to transact our business in Mosquitia, before the hurricane season, we made early preparations, and left Fairfield, in Manchester parish, on the morning of April 13th.—The distance from Kingston, whence we were to sail, may be about 60 miles ; or about 48 to Spanish Town, the seat of government, through which the road lies.

In this age of railways, telegraphs &c., when to travel, is to go-ahead " with lightning speed," it may seem out of place to tell you, that we had determined to "start early," and leave our home "far behind us," before the day should dawn ;—but I must beg you to remember, that we are in Jamaica. where railway conveniences reach no further than from Kingston to Spanish Town. You will therefore have to be patient, and to be willing to travel to Mosquitia as we did ;—we can furnish you with no other conveyance to Spanish Town, than our old chaise, drawn by 'Sassafrass,' or 'Smiler,' or 'Hazard,' or some other veteran Mission horse. The luggage we

shall pile upon the back of 'Toby mule,' or 'Alick mule,' and leave the poor fellow to trot on behind us, until we reach town.—The harness must be 'overhauled;' springs secured; wheels greased; else we break down upon the way. We must be careful too, to have the horses newly shod, and to put them and the mules into the nearest padlock, so as to have them at a moment's warning.—Every thing is ready; to-morrow morning at 3 o'clock, we shall bid adieu to Fairfield.—

Morning comes; you are awake; footsteps in the hall below have aroused you. You find breakfast nearly ready; good old Eleanor, the faithful cook, has been up an hour already, though the clock shows a quarter till two; having been in great trepidation the preceeding evening lest she should oversleep herself, and "Massa and dem, no get bruckfuss."—

Meanwhile Peter and Robert are roused, and speed away for the horses. We couldn't have hit the time better; we sit down to a hearty breakfast in good spirits. One by one the rest of the Mission family joins us. Breakfast over, you look out again; it is a beautiful night; the stars are shining brilliantly. Neither lads nor horses can be seen; one solitary mule stands patiently near the garden fence. What can be the matter? shall we go after them; no, wait a little. Half an hour passes; at last Peter makes his appearance. "Massa, de haas and dem, no dyeygah." [The horses and mules are not to be found.] "Where are they?" "Me no know sah!" "Well, go look for them; make haste." "Massa, waal brake!" "How's that?" "De waal brake sah! Dem, get out!" Provoking!" "Yes, massa, fee true, de waal no good for notten at all; Massa better get—" "Well, don't stand here talking, Peter; hurry and look for them —try to be smart!" "massa me no can find dem." "Nonsense! where's Robert?" "Massa, him tell me say Smiler jump waal sah, over in Nottingale grass-piece—him been looken fee dem." [Exit Peter.]

Here we are, good brother! only make up your mind to wait *an hour at least* before you see any thing in the shape of horses; the creatures have a wide range in the neighbouring pasture, and the boys, afraid to be in the dark, will shout to keep their courage up, or throw stones to drive the crea-

tures to the gate until the animals are thoroughly frightened, and will scarcely suffer themselves to be caught:—this will bring the time up to half past three; then say half an hour more for the harnessing, and we may be ready by four. Let us look after the harness and portmanteaus once more, and then await further notice from the grass-pieces— — Vain precaution! four o'clock is come, Smiler is barely in the shafts; Sassafrass and 'Alick-mule' must be curried; Robert, who has had no breakfast is cross; and every now and then you hear a fierce "*you sah!*" as the horse becomes restive under the relentless currying. Peter is still absent after "Brisk mule;" no, here he comes! galloping up the hill too;—now there are some hopes of getting away before *sun-rise.*

I am not describing an unusual occurrence in Jamaica dear brother; it *sometimes* happens that you are riding up or down the mountain at the intended early hour, but I appeal to the experience of my fellow-brethren to say whether you may not safely reckon on having two hours worriment of body and mind. In this instance we were peculiarly unfortunate; not a little time had to be spent upon balancing "Toby mules'" load, so that his back might not be chafed; gerths had "popped," and must be mended, or had been put on the wrong way; or one was missing,—what *had* become of it? in short—we drove out of the gate as the sun gilded the opposite mountain range. On the *top* of the mountain,—for you have still to ascend from Fairfield—we come to a dead hault, quarter of a mile from home. Robert has forgotten the hammock; he must go back, and we will wait for his return at these negro houses. The people are beginning to stir; they are about going to their provission-grounds, but put down baskets and machettes, to see what is the matter, or come forward to say "by-tee [good-bye] to old and young Massa." "Massa, guine a Kingston?" "Chow! you no heary tell dat he bin goin walk over de sea! Massa! we pray Saviour fee go we you! Me hope me Lord bring you safe back! Ples-aunt pashess, [pleasant passsage] Massa—yes, me good Massa! Mornen, my good ministar! By-tee, me cool-massa." [School-master.]

Robert having reappeared, we make another attempt, and with success; although we progress but

slowly for the first seven miles over a rough road, with hill after hill.

Let me give you a more condensed sketch of the rest of this journey.

Mandeville, a small town of scattered houses, was the first place we reached, distant about 6¼ miles from Fairfield. The surrounding country is properly a grazing district, and contains a good many "pens" as the estates in such localities are called. The 'Queen's road" now becomes better, and we trotted briskly along.

It was one o'clock before we reached the flats of *Clarendon.* Here the scenery changes entirely, and the ride becomes extremely monotonous. Viewing the plain from the highlands above and catching occasional glimpses of it as you gradually descend, it seems to bear a different character; but once in it, you drive for the most part along an open savanna; at one time, on a very wide road, with the ground of a dark red colour, no living being near,—one clump of low bushes after the other; at another, the road narrows, and on either side is a forest of logwood, ebony, or cashaer, and you make turn after turn in the vain hope of soon emerging into a more interesting portion of the country. Toward Old Harbour, the next town, the country becomes undulating. It is an uninteresting place, although more compactly built than Mandeville. From Old Harbour to Spanish Town you have a beautiful turnpike-road, and we rolled rapidly along.

You see nothing of Spanish Town, until you are close upon it; it lies in a plain, and is hidden by trees; beyond it in the distance tower the lofty Blue Mountain peaks. We reached this place about nine o-clock, happy and thankful in having accomplished a most fatiguing day's journey. Spanish Town, or St. Jago de la Vega, as it was named by the Spaniards who found it, is interesting as being the seat of government; and contains the King's or Governor's House, House of Assembly, Court House and other public buildings, which are arranged so as to form quite a handsome square in the centre of the town. At one o'clock we took the train for Kingston, and arrived in the city in about three quarters of an hour, including stoppages; distance 13 miles.

Kingston is regularly laid out, and contains some tolerable handsome streets and buildings. The views from the large parade-ground are striking. The whole place has the usual appearance of a W. I. town, and to take a bird's eyeview seems, a collection of roofs. The view from the harbour at some distance out is however the best: the shipping, the odd-looking houses; the date and cocoa-nut palms waving in the strong sea-breeze; the amphitheatre of mountains in the distance behind the town, and rising far above it; the summits often capped with clouds; the storm brooding over the higher paths, while all below is bright sunshine, combine to form a magnificent view.

We busied ourselves whilst awaiting the arrival of the packet in making some necessary inquiries relative to the Musquito Shore of individuals who visited the coast. They advised us by all means to take a servant along, and a supply of provisions in case of being obliged to shift for ourselves entirely. We therefore secured a good supply of biscuit, and a number of jars of preserved meats, which would require no further preparation than to be heated a little.

The Steamer came in early on Saturday morning; in the course of the day we engaged a passage with the purser. Expenses to St. Juan de Nicaragua via Chagres, $70 each; servant $35; distance [not direct] about 700 miles. We went on board next day at ten o'clock, accompanied to the wharf by two of our pupils, who had been placed at the Mico Institute. The crew were still busied in taking in coal; it was not until three o'clock that we weighed anchor, and slowly moved down towards Port Royal, seven miles distant, at the entrance of the harbour.

Off Port Royal we took in the pilot for the American coast. This town, situated at the extremity of a long and very narrow peninsula separating between the sea and harbour and called "the palisades," though it still presents an attractive appearance from the public hospitals, fort and other buildings it contains, and from being the anchorage of the ships of war, is after all a mere wreck of former greatness.

The dinner call from a bugle summoned us to the saloon below as the steamer once more got under weigh. Not a quarter of an hour had elapsed ere we had seated ourselves, before I began to be aware of

a certain disagreeable sensation, which hurried me upon deck, as well as the motion of the vessel, now very unsteady, would permit; Br. Pfeiffer fared much better, and throughout the voyage was not so much afflicted with nausea. We occupied two convenient after-cabins with the berths immediately under the ports, which, from the height of the vessel could be kept open nearly the whole time. There were few passengers; mostly Spaniards. The arrangements and regulations of these steamers are very good and you have besides the great advantage of arriving at a fixed time; otherwise a well ordered packet ship is equally, if not more comfortable. By sunset we could barely discern the distant mountains through the haze; soon they were quite lost to view, and I felt somewhat lonely on no longer recognizing familiar objects, and in vain endeavouring to form conjectures as to what the future might bring with it. Yet the assurance that the Lord's "presence" would "go with us," and that His eye was watching over us for good, was a cheering consolation.

On Wednesday morning, (April 21st] we were early upon deck, having been informed by the steward that land was in sight. The coast of Panama, adjoining the town of Chagres [pronounced Shaggress] for which we were steering, was distinctly visible. The land is low; to the left of the town however, a small hill rises to the height of two or three hundred feet; rocky and abrupt at its base, and washed by the sea. Still farther to the left as you approach, you see a faint outline of the land stretching towards S. America, apparently rising gradually. Towards the interior are several ranges running parallel to the coast, the highest of which, about mid-way to the Pacific, seems not to be above 500 feet in elevation. The whole country is wooded; not the least trace of cultivation was discernible. The hill along the sea-coast terminates abruptly at the entrance of Chagres harbour; here, commanding the bay and the approach to it, is a dingy-looking fortification, which showed Columbian colours [vertical stripes of red, blue and yellow] in answer to our flag.

The village of Chagres, is not distinctly visible from the sea. It is built along the margin of the bay,

and early hidden from view by the hill on which the fort stands. The few thatched huts that could be seen, confirmed the account of its being a poor and unhealthy place. The inhabitants number about 1000, and consist principally of black and coloured people. There is a swamp to the east of the town, fed by springs which have no outlet, and the whole place is open only to the west wind, which does not prevail sufficiently to disperse the miasmate.

The Rio Chagres empties into the bay, and imparts a yellowish colour to the sea for a considerable distance from land. A bar which has not more than thirteen feet water over it obstructs the entrance of the harbour: we were consequently obliged to heave-to in the road, and send the boats ashore. This was done at considerable risk, as there was a pretty heavy swell on the sea; no damage, beyond a good ducking was however sustained by any one. The mails for this place, Panama, and other towns on the opposite coast were first landed; a second boat conveyed the passengers and packages. The steamer, during their absence was kept moving to and fro, under the direction of the pilot. In about two hours the boats returned. They unusually remain here six hours, but on the present occasion, having received other orders they deviated from the usual route via Santa Martha and Certhagena, in Columbia. We landed three passengers only, the others, with the exception of ourselves, were bound for Santa Martha, and were rather out of humour, because the captain deviated from his course, which would have brought them home by this time.

We had not been able to go ashore. I spent my time in reconnoitering the land. To the right from the town the coast is very low, and covered with wood to the water's edge, which is skirted with the mangrove. Here and there, especially in the town, rise clusters of cocoa-trees.

You have probably come to the conclusion that Chagres is an insignificant place; as such you may set it down: nor would it be worthy of a monthly visit from the large W. I. steamer, were it not that its situation as a medium of communication, and I believe the only good one, with Panama and other towns, renders it an important stopping place. The

country above and below being rich in mines, is able through this channel, to send a larger amount of bullion to England.

At eleven o'clock, A. M. we steered W. N. W. for San Juan de Nicaragua, distant 240 miles. On the following day, [Thursday] two high peaks were visible, perhaps 70 or 80 miles south of San Juan; the one was taken to be the Mt. Cartago [11,100 ft.] and the other Mt. Blanco, [11,700 ft.]. The outlines were very abrupt, but soon faded from view.

Presently a long low line of coast could be made out; very indistinct, and but little above the level of the sea. We kept running along for about an hour at an accute angle to the shore, until we had apprached to within five miles of it. By four o'clock every thing was plainly visible. The country is extremely flat, covered with forest, and bounded in the distant horizon by a small mountain. There was nothing to be seen; nothing but trees; no signs of life, or cultivation. Soon, it was said, we would be in the harbour of San Juan de Nicaragua. I began to have some misgivings about the place notwithstanding its long name, as we descended the companion way to dinner. On returning to deck we were close in upon land, having just rounded Point Arenas, a low sandy point, almost even with the water's edge. A number of persons, apparently Indians, were encamped upon it, either about to fish, or resting from their journey. They had drawn their boats ashore; the only shelter they had from the weather was a simple covering or roof their sails secured to four posts. One of the canoes was also turned bottom upward, resting upon a support of stocks. On several horizontal poles, long strips of some kind of flesh, and resembling sausages, were hanging up to dry.

We had entered the harbour of San Juan, and continued moving on until within three quarters of a mile from shore. Before us lay the town! My heart almost sank as I gazed upon its wretched appearance, and contemplated the surrounding country. Scarcely a whit above Chagres! and now to leave the comfortable vessel! This was no time however to give way to idle regrets; besides we were on the "Master's business; he had brought us safely across the sea; it was but reasonable to "gird ourselves with

alacrity," having the promise for every future time: "The Lord will provide." The mail-boat was soon manned; we followed in the next with the Captain, purser, doctor and some passengers. The men pulled steadily, and after rowing half a mile or more, landed us on a sandy beach in front of the custom-house. This building, while it no doubt answers the purposes of the Nicaraguans, who have established themselves here, looks very much like an old barn when viewed from the side; being weather-boarded, and covered with thatch. We had expected, notwithstanding the name, to find the English influence and language predominant, under the impression, that the town was under the control of Mosquitia. This impression had been imbibed from conversation with individuals in Kingston. We soon discovered our mistake in being required to take our luggage to the custom-house, and in hearing Spanish voices. Robert, our servant, and several negroes, who volunteered their services, obeyed the order; I followed to overlook our goods, whilst Br. Pfeiffer proceeded to the house of a Capt. Sheppard, to whom we had letters, and whose nephew is Agent for the Royal Mail Company. A crowd of idlers was lounging about the custom-house to get a peep at the strangers; they were all very courteous. A few were able to speak English, and with these I whiled away the time, whilst keeping watch over luggage.

Presently a man of Indian and Spanish extraction, with spectacles shoved up into his bushy hair approached, and made signs which I interpreted as meaning, "open your trunks." As I appeared to him to be in no great hurry to do so, he changed his air; became impatient, and nodded his head, as much as to say, "you must!" I made no further demur, upon which he resumed a pleasant smile, and made me do no more than merely open. His air of official importance was amusing.—On looking out again, I observed two parties of Indians; the one about to embark in their bungy [a large boat manned by 10 or 12 men] to go up the river; the other had just landed, having brought down a bell for the Roman Catholic church which the Nicaraguans are building in the place. The Indians were genuine red men, of a dark copper col-

our, though some of them had red paint smeared over the body, were of low stature but strongly built, and naked, excepting a girdle of native cloth about the middle.

Their features were neither handsome nor strikingly ugly ; eye-brows very much arched ; yet on the whole a degree of mildness in their whole manner, the reverse of what previous ideas of the sterner North American Indian might have led us to expect.— Their straight black hair hung down on each side to the shoulder and in front extended to the eye-brows.

I spoke to one of them, and told him we had come to see them; he smiled but shook his head, meaning that he did not understand. They were Spanish Nicaraguan Indians, from the interior; more ingenious and differing in many other respects from those of the coast higher up.

Brother Pfeiffer having returned, we both went over to Mr. Sheppards, after having "cleared" at the Custom House. — We were very kindly received by the old gentleman, who is an invalid, blind of one eye, and generally rests in a hammock, swinging to and fro. He was very communicative and gave an account of his life. Suffice is to say, that he has for thirty-six years been a trader to this coast from Jamaica and elsewhere; lived in Bluefields for a number of years, and finally settled at St. Juan where he built the first houses on the opposite side of the harbour and lagoon. These dwellings were destroyed by fire during his absence on a trading voyage ; whereupon he chose the present location, and at this time occupies a pretty large two story frame house, which is supported on ten or twelve round pillars of stone ; the space underneath the floor serving as a kind of stable. Capt.Sheppard as he is called by the people has met with many reverses. He exercises considerable influence over the people of St. Juan. Before the arrival of the English Consul this influence also extended over the Mosquito King, from whom (the late king) he holds various grants of land, the titles to which were disputed and annulled by the present government.

Having a large household, and no spare room, Capt. S. offered us accommodations in his nephews house.

Young Sheppard, received us kindly. He is a coloured young man, intelligent, and speaks both the English and Spanish languages. Our lodgings were however anything but comfortable. We lay at night upon two mattrasses, the best the house afforded, yet hard as boards. Poor Robert was obliged to shift as he could.— I believe he had the floor in an outer room. Mosquitos not usually very plentiful, were just in sufficient numbers to torment us; underneath the house were pigs ; outside Spanish voices.

Nevertheless we felt thankful for our shelter, for we could hardly have obtained one any where else, and being unusually weary, fell into a sound sleep, after committing ourselves to Him who "slumbereth not nor sleepeth."

Friday, April 23d.—Breakfasted at Captain Sheppard's, after keeping morning prayers at his nephew's. A number of negroes who lived near by came in, and seemed attentive to the reading of the bible. Our breakfast was a very plain one; all the house afforded at the time, and consisted of a bit of mutton, two biscuits and a few fried plantains, with tea made of the leaves of the lime bush.

Now that day has come, let us take a more particular look at the town. St. Juan de Necaragua is built along the sea-shore near the mouth of the river San Juan. The houses at a distance resemble Indian wigwams, including kitchens and sheds, there are from 150 to200 buildings, scarcely fifteen of which are of large size. The population amounts to about three hundred, and consists of Spanish Nicaraguans, negroes, and mixed races of Spanish and Indian descent. The houses in one part form a street, but are in general irregularly built. The best are built with the floor a foot or two above ground, and supported partly by the posts of the building itself, and partly upon piles. The sides of the house are either wattled, or enclosed by vertical laths, made of a species of palm, and nailed so far apart that a person within may see anything on the outside through the interstices.

Many have palm leaves fastened against the sides, to secure the building from the wet. A few houses are weather-boarded and shingled. Nearly all the roofs are however thatched with the leaves of a palm which the natives call "comfra." No trace of cultivation is seen, if we except a few plantations here and there, which can scarcly be taken into account as they require so little cultivation; in fact, the nature of the soil prohibits it; for, however rich higher up the country, it is here merely a sandy deposit. The people were they even inclined, would be obliged to plant provission grounds elsewhere. They are dependent for vegitables upon the boats that come from Nicaragua; occasionally a supply of flower is received by an American vessel. Game is pretty abundant, such as the peccary, warrie, curassows, &c. whilst fish abound in the lagoons and river.

This place is nominally Roman Catholic as may be perceived from the rude crosses put up in front of many of the houses and before the church, which is not yet completed. Whether the building will ever be finished seems doubtful, for the people of Grenada, at whose expense it was undertaken, trouble themselves very little about the matter. Immediately in front of the church is an old rusty cannon very poorly mounted; nearer to the harbour, aside of the custom house is the flag staff.

Nicaraguan supremacy was asserted by a force of twelve soldiers, with their "commandante," a black man, and important personage in the town, who administers justice, as we had opportunity of observing, "ad libitum." I had had a glimpse of some of his troops at the custom-house the day before. You will think

me disposed to ridicule if I compare them to scare crows, but it is the truth; as you would agree could you see their ragged and dirty dress, and the faded red cuff often tangling at the arm. This small force however, according to Sheppard, does good service in preventing brawls, and keeping order among the Indians whenever they arrive in considerable numbers; they are moreover said to be expert at bush-fighting. In their guard-house they are extremely noisy, and made more disturbance during the time we were at St. Juan that the rest of the people together.

Wherever you turn, you see plenty of idlers; some are very respectably and almost fashionably dressed, wearing the Spanish costume; bnt lounging about the live-long day. Numbers of chickens and pigs may be seen at any time of day, seeking for food in the short grass which forms a kind of lawn at one end of the town, and grows everywhere; in the street,—and between, and around the houses.

San Juan is mainly important on account of its harbour, which is a good one, and the best on the whole coast, with the exception of that of Poco del Toro, near Chiriqui lagoon. The harbour is well protected by a narrow neck of land terminating in the sandy point Arenas, above referred to. The River San Juan discharges into it by three mouths about half a mile below the town, and forms constant alluvial deposites. Here are a number of low islands or keys, on the sandy banks of which, the alligators which abound here and in the neighhouring lagoons, generally bask. Adjoining the town the water is comparatively shallow, so that vessels must anchor a good distance off. An American brig and brigantine were in during our stay, for supplies of Brazil and other woods, which are brought down from Nicaragua, and deposited with an agent for shipment. "Sharks abound, and may easily be recognized by the large dorsal fin which appears above water as the fish scours about in search of prey.

At five P. M., the steamer left, taking a few passengers from the interior. We took the precaution before hand to purchase a supply of cheese, tea and sugar from the steward.

We had been lead to expect that we should find ready means of conveyance from San Juan to Bluefields, a distance of sixty miles; but found on inquiry, that not a canoe could be had. Nor could we send word to the British Consul, to whom we had letters to request his assistance in sending one. A Spaniard finally offered to lend us his dorey, and procure the crew. We were to strike our own bargain with the men: as to himself he would only make the moderate charge of $30! His boat was about forty-two feet in length, and six in greater width. At this juncture, a negro man, eame in to Captain Sheppard and was introduced as Mr. Samuel Hadgson, a magistrate of Bluefields. His familiar cognomen was "Uncle Sam." He usually accompanies

the mail-boat from Bluefields from St. Juan, bringing and conveying back letters for the Consul and English settlers. We immediately inquired whether he could take us along on his return, but he declared it to be impossible as his boat would scarcely hold two persons. He recommended us to send word to Mr. Walker, who would then forward a boat at little expense to us. The idea however of remaining a week or two at San Juan, with no certain prospect of getting off at the expiration of that time, decided us once more to belabour the Spaniard. Capt. Sheppard joined his persuasions to ours, and we finally procured the boat at $ 10.—Uncle Sam was however requested to inform Mr. Walker of our intended visit. The four negroes whom the Spaniard engaged, made their appearance after some time, and agreed to take us to Bluefields at $4 each, except the "patrone' or captain, Thos. Smith who was to receive $5. They made repeated assurances of being most willing to serve, and seemed ready to undergo any hardship. Sheppard assured us that they were the best hands we could get in the town ; the sequel will show their faithlessness.

April 24th.—A strong wind had blown during the night, and our men declared it would be impossible to put to sea. After satisfying ourselves that the breakers were high upon the sandy beach at the mouth of the harbour we yielded to their representations after exacting a promise that an attempt should be made the day after. Numbers of Indians came in during the course of the morning in their bungies, bringing Brazil wood for their Spanish employers. They also had parrots, tamed monkeys, carved cocoanuts, and plantains for sale. These Indians resembled the others we had seen, and understood not a word of English.

Our time we employed mainly in reading and writing; finding but little encouragement in visiting such of the negroes as understood English. Some of them who had formerly been on the island of Old Providence, listened attentively to what was said.—We invited them to attend prayers, and requested Sheppard, jr. to allow us the use of his room. He promised to do so, but remarked that the "commandante" had forbidden any *public* religious assembly except for Roman Catholic worship. We retired with them to our chamber, but finding it to too small, re-assembled in the large room. Perhaps the few seeds sown may not be lost; we met with very little encouragement however, in a spiritual point of view, during our stay ; and soon had our services to ourselves. There appeared not to be a single godly soul in the place, nothing but ignorance, superstition and vice.

April 25th.—Heavy rain, with much thunder and lightning early in the morning. The nights are unusually sultry. The climate we found not warmer than in the lowlands of Jamaica ; the *sea-breeze* blows during a portion of the day but not as constantly as at Bluefields and higher up the coast. San Juan is considered pretty healthy. During the rainy season the water collects in

pools, but owing to the nature of the soil does not remain long enough to engender miasmata. Good fresh water may be found at the depth of from 3—4 feet beneath the surface. A barrel with the top and bottom knocked out, is placed into the hole that has been dug to prevent the sand from caving in; the water collects; and thus in a short time you have a well for future use.

We made inquiries of Sheppard, jr. who has been all over the country, whether he had ever met with mounds, remains of tempels, images &c. such as Stevens decribes in his work on Central America. He said he had seen a few insignificant remains in Nicaragua, but thought none were to be met with in Mosquitia; this was afterwards confirmed by Bluefield's settlers.

Made preparations about 10 o'clock for setting out. The men were very tardy in completing their arrangements. First they had to procure sails as the owner of the boat could furnish none. Next a "tschoopa," was to be made. This was done by bending two or three pliant withes across the stern of the boat, and covering them with an old sail; underneath this contrivance which was raised very little higher than the gunwale of the boat so as not to impede its progress by catching the wind, were placed two boards, longitudinally, these covered with a few palm leaves were to serve as our bed at night; or as a shelter during a squall, or if we became sea-sick. There was no room for two to lie comfortably, let alone the trouble of crawling under, when we should be tossing about. I shrunk back involuntarily when we were about to start, on perceiving the stickening odour of the withered palm leaves.—There was however no remedy. When the necessary preparations appeared to have been made, we gave them orders to get "under weigh," but now they discovered that they had forgotten to cook their rice and plantains. We had no other resource but to wait, for we were dependant on them in a great measure, as they well knew, and their only reply to our impatience and remonstrances was "Massa, you tink we can do mitout provishan; you tink we goin to eat it raw." It would have lost labour to have proved to them that there had been time enough before hand for all this. Two of them now set about cooking, whilst the other two with Robert brought our luggage from Sheppard's, and stowed it in the middle of the dorey, and afterwards covered it with plam leaves. All ready at last, a squall came on; and we formed rather a woful group, standing on shore under our umbrellas, which barely secured us against the driving rain. As soon as the sqall had abated a little, the men lifted us into the dorey. Smith was at the helm with Robert; we preferred taking a station on top of the luggage. The wind had died away after the squall, and the men had to use their sweeps. Very smartly did they pull past the two vessels for the point; but we had already seen too much of them to hope that they would be equally active on the open sea. They began to be very noisy and unruly; Nicky, the youngest,

was extremely vociferous until he received a set-down which had the effect of sobering all for a time.

On reaching the point the men declared they could go no further; Indeed, although we at first attempted to persuade them, it was evidently rashness to venture. The spray was dashing high upon the beach, and the sight of the troubled sea, rolling in huge billows was calculated to deter even the most resolute. Added to this the Indians were still on the point, and "Uncle Sam," anxious as ourselves to reach Bluefields had been unable to proceed, and declared it to be inadvisable, even with our large canoe, as one of the Indians had made an attempt early in the morning and had been obliged to return, having nearly been swamped.

We were therefore reluctantly obliged to put back; and to await the Lord's time. We were welcomed with a good many smiles by the idlers who had predicted our return; and felt in no very amiable mood as we followed our luggage to old quarters.

April 25th.—Heavy rain during the night and morning.—Visited our boatmen in the evening to give orders for sailing next morning for the sea had somewhat abated. We found them extremely unwilling to bestir themselves. Instead of reserving their remaining supplies, they had consumed half their provisions, and seemed to think we must give more than the quantity usually furnished to boatmen. The sea they said was still too high, and would probably be higher next morning. "Never mind let us at least be ready." The principal reason of their unwillingness was, that as it was getting dark, they were afraid to venture out for a fresh supply of palm-leaves. Knowing no other excuse they said "they were afraid of snakes." We promised to drive the snakes away; when, seeing that we were willing to accompany, they finally took up their machettes and went with us to the lagoon side.

April 27th.—Made another attempt, after the usual preliminaries, to set out with a fine breeze in our favour. As we neared the point we observed the Indians with their canoes still drawn upon shore. Perhaps however they might be a party lately arrived; and soon going southward; we therefore determined having such a favourable wind to stand out to sea. Some one called to us, but as we were rapidly passing we could not catch the words. On emerging into the sea, we found the waves still so very high that it was impossible to proceed. We lowered sail, and rowed back to the point, after considerable difficulties. On landing we discouvered that the Indians were still the old party, that it was Uncle Sam who had called to us.

Once more we had the dispiriting task of returning. Mr. Sheppard again bade us welcome; his hospitality deserves to be noticed; he would not, at any time accept the least remuneration.—We had much reason to be thankful for enjoying our health so

well, and felt assured in the midst of our uncertainty that the ways of the Lord are "ordered in all things and sure."

In the course of this day, having succeeded in borrowing a dorey, we made an excursion to the river. Two of our boatmen accompanied us. About half a mile below the town you enter the nearest mouth of the St. Juan. The scenery here is uninteresting. This branch of the river is about seventy yards wide; its banks are low, with no trees of any large size, and skirted with a tall coarse grass, growing up out of the water. On some of the islands or deltas of the river, cattle, extremely fierce are said to abound; the original stock was brought down from Nicaragua, and put here to graze by the owner who afterwards neglected them; they have since multiplied, and become fairly wild.

The principal mouth of the San Juan, the Rio Colorada, empties into the Carribbean Sea, 10 or 15 miles south of the town.

After paddling for quarter of an hour we turned to the right into a lagoon of fresh water, connected with the river, and with other lagoons beyond. Here the scenery is interesting. The trees often overhang the water and in the narrow windings cast a deep shade over the surface, whilst further on every thing is lit up in the brightest sun-shine. In these passages, your progress is often impeded by trees which have fallen into the water, or been carried their by the flood of the river. At such places the water is smooth as a mirror. Fish were sporting about in every direction and frequently did we come upon and start up the large white galding that had been intently watching them.

After a considerable time we reached Sheppard's lagoon which extends behind the settlement. It reminded me very much of Schæffer's lake above our Blue Mountains; only more romantic.

The depth of the water accordiug to measurement averaged ten feet. As we paddled under the shade, close in shore we had an opportunity of observing to advantage, the most venomous snake of the country "the tommygough." It was about 4½ feet in length and a most active reptile. It had been lying in an exposed situation on the warm sand, but instantly put itself on the defensive, coiling up for a spring. In shape and general appearance, it much resembles the rattlesnake, but is more distinctly, and almost brilliantly banded on the sides with yellow and brown. We were anxious to secure the specimen but the men would not venture to attack it. We afterwards met Nicky on another canoe with a gun, and returned to the spot; but the reptile was gone. Only the evening before we had been obliged to listen to several hideous snake stories, which, with the alarming accounts of the tarantulas, poisonous toads, black scorpions, ticks &c. almost made ones hair stand on ends; we had just seen one of the formidable foes, and thought that for the future it would be best to avoid venturing too freely into the forest, or along the river side. These resolutions were forgotten however, and during our whole stay, includ-

ing several pretty long marches through the woods, we met no snakes except the one just noticed, and two smaller ones at Bluefields.

The sun being about to set, we landed at a short distance from Sheppard's house. I remained on the bank for some time watching the alligators. You need seldom wait long before you may perceive them floating near the surface, and looking very much like a small log with here and there a knot above water. These are the large scales, or long ridges on the back and tail. Throw a stone into the water and your log disappears at once.

We observed an alligator approaching us, or rather nearing a dog who was lapping the water at a short distance from us. The animal happening to look up became aware of his danger, and immediately retreated. Mr. Sheppard's servants who joined me remarked that several dogs had been carried off by these creatures; the alligator having first sunk below out of view on observing his prey, and then came unawares upon the unsuspecting animal, snapping him up in a moment. He remarked that the alligator was timid upon land, and would seldom attack any one; but that in the water it was extremely formidable. He mentioned that on one occasion having been out hunting with two companions, the party had wandered far from the settlement, and completely lost their way; and that taking the probable direction to the town, they determined to keep a straight coarse in returning. In doing so they came to a narrow lagoon which they must cross. Being able to swim, and the distance not being very considerable, they determined to venture into the water, after waiting a considerable time without seeing any alligators. His two comrades crossed safe; he was yet a little beyond the middle of the lagoon when he perceived one of these formidable creatures at a good distance off making towards him. He gave himself up for lost; but shouting to his companions to throw stones, he strained ever nerve to reach the shore. The huge reptile gained upon him every moment, and was within a very short distance of him; when, keeping his presence of mind the man dived to the bottom, and the alligator was carried over and beyond him by his own impetus. During the short interval he had gained, he swam sufficiently far under water to find footing; and splashing on towards shore, with the energy of despair, had succeeded with his comrades assistance in gaining the bank, as the creature which had again perceived him was returning to the charge.

When seen basking on a log the alligator has a truly hideous appearance. It may sometimes be seen from 14—16 feet in length. Ridges of long scales or plates, run along the back and tail. The legs are short, tail long and tapering, flattened on the sides, and serving the purpose of a paddle. In vain is the attempt to shoot them; the bullet glances from the impenetrable coat of mail which covers the whole body. They are however shy, and no sooner

perceive you than the huge jaw is opened, as if the creature were yawning; then slowly shiffling to one side, and turning its head downwards, it plumps off the log into the water, its proper element.

April 28th.—Towards evening of this day, the sea had become so much calmer, that we determined to make another effort to set out for Bluefields. The men seemed willing also; and after making the usual arrangements, and once more bidding adieu to Capt. Sheppard and family we left about 6 P. M. A fair breeze, which increased in strength, took us from the town. "Uncle Sam" was gone! not an Indian to be seen on the point. We felt cheerful and happy. The Lord had been with us and strengthened us, and we felt assured that He who "maketh a way in the sea, and a path in the mighty waters" would "make our" future "way plain," and prosper our undertakings. Especially were we glad in the prospect of being released from San Juan de Nicaragua. Nor were we disappointed, for although landsmen like ourselves might, had we been alone, have hesitated, at sight of the sea still pretty rough, the men declared it practicable to venture out. The sun had already set; but there was every promise of a clear moonlight night. The evening star shone out with tropical brilliancy, and was reflected in the smooth water of the harbour; it seemed like a familiar friend.

I find that I have detained you, dear brother, longer than was my original intention; I must therefore preserve further communications, if agreeable, for another time.

Your affectionate friend and brother,

A. A. Reinke.

(*To be continued.*)

III.

WEST INDIES.

(*From the Periodical Accounts.*)

HURRICANE IN TOBAGO.

Destruction of the Mission-Church and School-House at Montgomery.

"The Mission of the Brethren's Church in the Island of Tobago has a peculiar interest attaching to it, whether its origin in 1789, its renewal in 1799, or its eventual establishment in 1827, be the subject of consideration.

It was at the earnest and repeated request of Mr. Hamilton, a gentleman of considerable property and influence in the island, (at

that time a French colony, and but recently brought under civilization), that Br. and Sr. John Montgomery,* of the Barbadoes Mission, paid two visits to its shores in the year 1789, and had many opportunities afforded them of testifying to the poor ignorant negroes, "either publicly or from house to house, repentance towards God, and faith towards the Lord Jesus Christ." (Acts. xx. 22). The following year (1790) they took up their abode in the island, by direction of the General Synod of the Brethren's Church, held in 1789,—and entered upon their duties with zeal and courage. But it soon became evident, that their lot was cast in troublous times. Anarchy among the whites,—threats of insurrection on the part of the blacks,—the partial destruction of the town by incendiaries,—and the ruin of many of the estates by a fearful hurricane,—followed each other in rapid succession, and left but little time or opportunity for preaching the Gospel of peace. It was during the raging of the furious tempest just referred to, that Br. Montgomery had to remove his apparently dying wife, from their shattered dwelling, into a small out-house, to escape the destruction, which seemed impending. About two months later, a return of fever brought her to the peaceful close of her earthly pilgrimage,—and her husband, being compelled by the declining state of his own health to quit the island in March, 1791, finished his course at Sharon in Barbadoes, in the month of October following.

After a suspension of eight years, rendered almost unavoidable by the unsettled and revolutionary state of the colony, the work was renewed in 1799, at the urgent solicitation of Mr. Hamilton, and the Brn. C. Shirner and John Church were successively appointed to the conduct of it. But the time of gracious visitation for the negro population of Tobago had not yet arrived. Their manifest indifference to the gospel-message, the death of Mr. Hamilton and other supporters of the work, and the failing health

* The parents of James Montgomery, of Sheffield,—a brother whose praise is throughout all the churches, not only as the first Christian poet and hymnologist of our day, but also as a zealous advocate and promoter of the cause of Missions to the Heathen. See his touching poem entitled "Departed Days."

"My father, mother,—parents now no more!
Beneath the Lion-star they sleep,
Beyond the Western deep;
And when the sun's noon-glory crests the waves,
He shines without a shadow on their graves."

of both the missionaries, led to the withdrawal of the latter from the unpromising field, and the abandonment of this second attempt, in the year 1803.

At length, in the year 1827, the mission was re-established, under circumstances of peculiar interest, and with prospects of success, which have been more than realized. The attention of the Brethren having been drawn to the existence of a legacy from the late Mr. Hamilton,—claimable whenever the mission should be renewed,—the co-operation of a Christian family of great liberalty, holding property in the island, was solicited and obtained by an active friend of the Missions, together with the kind promise of Mr. Hamilton, jun. to do every thing in his power to carry out the wishes of his departed father. With the means thus secured, and the offering of a considerable sum by friends at Sheffield and elsewhere towards the same object, "in testimony of their respect and esteem for James Montgomery, as a man, a poet, and a Christian," the work was recommenced, and at the express desire of the contributors last mentioned, the name of "Montgomery" was given to the settlement, formed in the course of the same year, near Mr. Hamilton's estate of Riseland. The progress of the work was at first slow; but during the last ten years, it has been equally rapid and satisfactory. In 1790, Br. John Montgomery declared it to be "his greatest grief,"—a grief outweighing all the distresses caused by civil tumult, incendiarism, and hurricane, "that he had not yet found one single soul seeking after a Saviour."—At the present time the Missionaries have the joy to see hundreds collected around them, who have not only sought, but also found Jesus, the pearl of great price, and to whose fellowship many are added from month to month. The two congregations, at Montgomery and Moriah, numbered at the close of 1846, 1243 souls, of whom 309 were communicants; with Missionary associations, comprising 530 members, and schools daily attended by about 400 children.

At this flourishing period of the work, it has pleased the Lord to visit the settlement of *Montgomery* with a desolating hurricane, the progress and effects of which are powerfully described in the following letters from the Brn. Badham and Prince. Meanwhile, with much to mourn over, there is yet more to be thankful for. Though the property of the Mission is to a considerable extent

destroyed, the lives of the Missionaries and their families have been wonderfully spared; and while church and school-house are in ruins, the shattered dwelling-house is still permitted to afford a shelter to its inmates, whose health may it please the Lord in mercy to preserve, till they can be provided with a more secure and comfortable residence. That the buildings at *Moriah* have escaped with but slight injury, is also a subject for devout gratitude to God. For despondency, there is evidently no room. To the question put by Br. Badham, "must this place be given up?" but one answer, we are persuaded, will be returned, whether by Brethren or Christian friends.

(*Editor of Periodical Accounts.*)

Extract of a Letter from Br. T. L. Badham.

MONTGOMERY, Oct. 14th, 1847.

"MY DEAR BROTHER

"It is with feelings which I cannot duly express, that I send you the intelligence that Montgomery is, I may say a heap of shapeless ruins! The united horrors of hurricane and earthquake have made us deeply feel the Lords's power. Blessed be His holy name, who would not make a full end of us, but enabled us poor weak creatures to rest on Him, as our defence amid darkness, tempest, and perils of various kinds. I trust you will excuse me for commencing so abruptly with this awful subject, but how can I help it? My heart is full. When I look round, my glance falls on dessolation and ruin. The shattered windows, and the holes and breaches in the walls, reveal a landscape marked with the traces of destruction. And when I see those I most love on earth still around me in life and health, and remember the horrors we endured together, tears start into my eyes, and my heart swells, I trust with fervent gratitude, that I have not had to follow their mangled corpses to the grave. But let me furnish you with as circumstantial a narrative as I can.

"The weather had been unusually hot for some days, but the country looked beautiful from the effects of late but refreshing rains. Sunday, the 10th, was a cloudy threatening day, but without rain. In the evening, the breeze veered round to the unusual quarter of the north. On the 11th, the wind continued from the north and northwest, and produced a peculiarly chilly feeling. — We appeared to be in a vast atmospheric ampitheatre, consisting of masses of bluish-grey clouds resting on the horizon. Heavy showers came at intervals from the northward. The remark was

often made: 'What remarkable weather!' but no one entertained any apprehension. Why should we do so in an island considered out of the range of hurricanes? We retired to rest as usual, but even while we were undressing, the breeze increased in violence; and soon after we had lain down, the roof cracked in such a manner as to alarm us, and we rose from our bed. Catching up a few articles of clothing, and wrapping our child in the blanket, we escaped to the hall. Here we found Br. and Sr. Prince, who having been alarmed, were before us, as their Bedroom faces the north. For a few moments we remained here, but the frightful cracking of the roof and groaning of all the joints, convinced us that this was no place of safety. We therefore went down stairs into the Brethren's speaking-room*. In this place we were not long safe; streams of water soon flowed along the ground, and a man half naked, one of our neighbours came to take shelter—his own cottage being gone. At length the windows in the adjoining room were blown in, frame and all with an awful crash, and immediately the partition began to bulge like a sheet of paper, when held up in the hands and blown on. Upon this, we snatched up our things, and retreated to the teacher's apartment; a large room divided by a low partition into two parts. In this transit, we lost our light, and in the darkness and confusion almost lost one another. Scarcely had we left the speaking-room, when the two large windows, frames and all, were dashed in, and thrown with violence up and down the room. Had we remained, we should in all probability have been miserably killed. In our new place of refuge, we were in darkness, but procured light afresh. Meanwhile the violence of the wind increased, the chorus of howling, screaming, hissing, whistling, crashing, and thumping was awful, and the shaking was constant. We now perceived, that, little as we had expected such a thing, this must be a regular hurricane, and that, as we were totally unprovided with the ordinary means of

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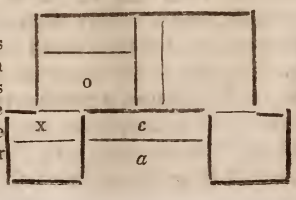
*The dwelling-house at Montgomery consists of two stories; the upper affords accommodation to two Mission-families, the lower part, which was formerly the church, contains apartments occupied as speaking rooms for the Negro Brethren and Sisters, as a dwelling for the school-teacher, and as a dispensary. The basement story is of brick, on which a frame-work building rests.

The Sketch subjoined shows the plan of the basement story.

The circle [o] shews the speaking-room in which the Misssionaries first took refuge. The cross [x] marks the Teacher's room, near



which is the recess [a] in which the wind exerted such power. Between the wings of the house [at c] was the verandah.

protection, the consequences would probably be fatal to some or all of us. We therefore sang a verse or two in fellowship*, and addressed such words of comfort one to another as were given us. The inmates of this room were at first, Br. and Sr. Prince, Sr. Badham, myself, our negro nurse girl Hannah, and the school-assistant, Francis James, (who held our little child all night, with the blanket over him), and Charles Mullings, one of the teachers. To this little band was afterwards added another negro man, who had escaped from his house. We afterwards heard, that many persons were sheltered in various parts of our premises; but at the time we knew nothing of it. Just after the singing, the wind increased in fury, blew out our light, and left us in a darkness only fitfully illuminated by the awful lightning

"At length the wind seemed to veer a little more to the northward, and obtained entrance into the recess (*a*). Here it raged with a fury, perfectly inconceivable to those who have never witnessed such a scene. An incessant shower of shingles, fragments of beams, bricks, branches &c., were hurled against that side of the house with a loud crash. We all sprang instinctively to the door opening into the very scene of the wild wind's operations, so that we might at least endeavour to escape. Here, then, we stood, like sheep ready for the slaughter, in a narrow passage, about seven feet long by three wide, we brethren pushing with all our strength against the door, to prevent, if possible the entrance of the wind. Meanwhile the rain fell, not in drops, but in streams through the whole place, wetting every thread we had on, and setting the floor several inches under water. The power of the wind was terrific. My office was to hold up the post on the one side of the door, between which and the brick wall, forming the substructure of the hinder part of the dwelling-house, there was a piece of partition about 1¼ foot wide, supported by strong horizontal bars fastened at one end into the door-post, and at the other into the brick wall. There I held as hard as I could. Oh, how awful were those moments! The wind really seemed to be no longer a mere inanimate agent but a terrible living being. The strong post was turned and twisted in my hands, as if by some giant outside. At length, down came the horizontal supports of the narrow partition I spoke of. They did not injure me, nor did the planks which followed them; but then the breach was begun. I looked up and saw the angry sky, with the swiftly drifting clouds and constantly flashing lightning. Properly, I ought not to have seen them, for there was a verandah recently repaired and altered at a great expense. But alas! it was already gone, roof, flooring, and all, and, as we afterwards discovered, was carried over the

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*The verses sung were the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd of No. 622, "Is God my strong salvation"—a noble hymn by Paul Gerhardt,—

roof of our house to about fifty yards distance. When I saw all this, I said, "Is it all over!" and, wishing to die with those most dear to me, I went round the partition where they were, and clasped them in my arms. What were my feelings at this moment? I commended my soul to the Lord who redeemed me with His precious blood-shedding and death. But my mind could scarcely be fixed for a moment on anything but the manner of dying; and at last my petitions were mainly resolved into this, that the Lord would graciously please to let us die without first living in anguish, crushed or mangled, but not killed. Sr. Prince was remarkably resigned, and my dear wife was suddenly enabled to be perfectly calm and confident in the Lord; which considering her peculiar circumstances, was a matter of great thankfulness. Meanwhile, Br. Prince and Charles placed a beam which had fallen from above against the door so as to prop it. Still the wind effected another breach in the wall, and would doubtless have driven in the whole; but the Lord suddenly hushed the tempest. Then we heard nothing but the dripping of water, the rustling of the still agitated trees, and the lamentable cries of those who in this dismal night were seeking refuge, or looking in vain for children or other relations. But the lull was of short duration. The wind had veered round towards the south, and blew in fearful gusts. At this moment a man came at the risk of his life, creeping on the ground, to tell us that a woman, a member of the congregation, was dead. What could we do? We momentarily expected the same fate. The windows, together with the shutters, were blown in; the rain was driven in, in torrents, and there we sat, crouching together, wet, chilled to the bone, and awaiting either the lagging day-light, or our call to another world. The wind seems afterwards to have shifted once or twice, and to have lulled several times; but its violence certainly diminished towards the latter part of the night. O how long was that night! a strange and unusual gleam on the horizon more than once deceived us into the belief, that the day was breaking, before this was the case. At last it did break, and what did its dim light reveal! The floor of the room swam with water. At our feet lay heaps of glass, fragments of sashes and shutters, &c., which had been hurled into the room without our noticing them! Br. Prince went up stairs to the dwelling-rooms, which he found in a sad state. He also looked round the premises, and announced—that the servants' houses, the school, and the church, were gone!

"When our limbs, stiff with the cold of this dreadful night, bore us tremblingly forth from our ark of refuge, what a scene met our gaze! The cocoa-nut trees had their graceful branches either twisted off or dangling round the trunks; those trees which are of a tougher texture, shewed the stumps of the branches, displaying white clusters of splinters, the more brittle, having them snapped short off. Spouts, rails, beams, and shingles, were heaped up

in confusion. The negro-houses were a heap of ruins ; the school flat on the ground, and sliding far down into the gulley ; the church, with the north side stove in, the roof down, and an avalanche of benches, beams, rafters, &c. protruding to a considerable distance through the rent on the north side. Our dwelling rooms were deluged,—beds, books, clothes, and paper, were wetted and blown together in inextricable confusion. A vast number of panes of glasses are broken, and no less than twelve whole windows beaten in, mostly with the entire frames, pulleys, weight and all. Scarcely a joint is good. Partitions bulge. Doors refuse to shut ; or, if shut, cannot be opened. We see day-light in many places through the roof. At the north end, the strong brick wall is broken down for the length of ten feet, and that part of the house hangs together in a manner not very easy to be understood. As the day advanced, we looked round the country, and saw nothing but one scene of horror. Mills, "great houses," negro-huts, settler's cottages, were all shattered or prostrate. The crops of cane and provisions, so smiling the day before, were all destroyed. What had been as the garden of the Lord was now a desolate wilderness. The besom of destruction had passed over the whole wide landscape. A temporary gleam of sunshine caused the poor people to drag forth and spread out their wet clothes and bedding ; but soon heavy showers came on, and it proved an angry, howling day. The Lord in mercy had spared a house here and there, in the midst of heaps of ruins, as a refuge for infirm persons and children. The negroes began manfully to put up little sheds, but multitudes, at the close of this dreary day, had no better place to rest their weary frames, tban in the saturated thatch of their fallen dwellings. *We* were busy all day mopping up water, and nailing up boards before the shattered windows, &c., and at night, by the Lord's mercy, obtained the rest we so much needed. In the afternoon, the remains of the sister who was killed were committed to the grave, in the presence of a large company, and amid a deeply solemn feeling.

The next day, the 13th, was, through mercy, fine and warm. The negroes worked hard in putting up temporary huts; and we not only made ourselves tolerably comfortable, but were also enabled to afford shelter to many others. We also picked out many bibles, class-books, cards, &c., from the ruins of the school-house, all much wetted and defaced, yet still, with care and drying, usable. This day, blessed be the Lord, is somewhat similar. I mentioned earthquake ;—*we* did not perceive it, but many did ; and many circumstances go to show that such a thing must have happened. Our school-house, doubtless, was thus destroyed ; and probably many buildings, afterwards swept away by the hurricane, were at least first shaken by the earthquake. The resignation, not apathy, with which the people bear the calamity is extraordinary,

So far, we hear with certainty of only ten deaths; but there have been probably more.

Several circumstances seem worth of note. The instinct of some of the inferior animals seems to have warned them of approaching disaster. Our cat, which is seldom in the house at night, refused to go out, and showed signs of extreme terror, an hour before the storm came on. At a manager's house near here, when the first gust blew in the window, a ground-dove, usually very timid, flew into the room. The gentleman caught it, and endeavoured to force it out again. But his efforts were vain, and it remained there till morning. To tell you all the wonderful accounts related to us, would take too much time and space; but it is a fact that, in several cases, entire houses were lifted into the air, and carried to some distance before they burst. Children were torn from their parets' grasp, and only recovered with great difficulty. One child was torn from its mother, and hurled on to the roof of a house, which at the moment fell in and killed the child. The escapes of many were almost miraculous. One poor woman with a child two days old, was in her bed, when the house was carried away, except a small portion of the wall, with some of the roof, which partially protected them from the pouring rain. Indeed, such instances are so numerous, that one almost loses sight of the Lord's just anger, in the contemplation of His wondrous mercy. Yet the Lord's hand *has* been stretched out in judgment.

One gentleman was dragged from the ruins of his house with an arm and a leg broken; and his daughter, her infant, and the nurse, were killed. In one instance, the house of an old sister, who is completely lame on both feet, was preserved, while the much more substantial habitation of her adult daughter, only about 14 feet distant, was totally wrecked. On Sunday, the 10th, I had been induced, by a very sudden departure in our congregation, to take as my text, 2 Sam. xiv. 14, former part. In the application of the subject, I was led to remark, that if the island should be desolated by earthquake or hurricane, those alone who loved and believed in our Saviour would have a good hope, of which no distress or trial could deprive them, &c. This appeared to make considerable impression at the time. Since the hurricane, many have reminded me of it. It is worthy of mention, that, in some cases, when the storm began to be violent, hymns were sung and prayers offered up, in a solemn manner. Let us hope that this display of the Lord's mingled mercy and judgement may produce wholesome effects on the heart.

"Oct. 15th.—This day the floor of the church has been cleared of rubbish. Three walls stand, with galleries, &c., depending from them, in a fantastic manner, and very much out of the perpendicular. Through the middle of the church extends a portion of the roof, upwards of 35 feet long by about 20 broad. It

rests edgewise on the floor, and forms a sort of wall. The flooring of the church has proved itself to be exceedingly firm and solid, by bearing the weight of such a mass of roof. Every bit of the building to the floor must eventually be taken down. We hope to keep school next week. Knowing that the people would be much comforted, by hearing the accustomed sound of the school-bell on Sunday, (the church never had a bell), we got the bell out of the school-house ruins, and have erected a sort of stand, consisting of the trunk of a cocoa-nut tree, and some beams to hang it on.

"We are rejoiced to find that, although the hurricane was very severe on the north side of the island, Moriah is but little injured. At our last Mission-conference, held on Friday, the 8th inst., it was decided that Br. Muentzer should follow the doctor's urgent advice, and take a trip to some other island; and as we wished to send boys to Antigua, it was agreed that Br. M. should go thither with them. This was on account of his rapidly failing health, he being affected with that truly distressing complaint, dyspepsy, almost, but not yet quite, as severely as Br. Renkewitz was after his fever. Under the present awful circumstances, he will postpone his journey till the departure of another steamer.

"Oct. 10th.—This has been a trying day to us all. The breeze is very high, and roars through the crevices of this crazy house in a fearful manner. Without any definable cause for fear, the constant roaring has a sad effect upon the nerves. After being, by the Lord's mercy, preserved in this hurricane, it seems as if we should be knocked up by the results. Constantly alarmed, we have no place to run to. A little negro-hut would be preferable to this great rambling house. To-day, a helper from a distant estate come to see us. She and her husband and family were in their house when it fell. There they remained amid the ruins, with one blanket enveloping the whole group, singing hymns. 'That singing,' she remarked. 'lifted up my heart, and I felt quite ready to go to Him!' We are glad, that the town has suffered less than we thought, but the windward district of the island is ruined. So far, we all keep our health, with the exception of nervous excitement. The howling of the breeze through our dilapidated house, sounds to me more awful than the roaring of a park of artillery. That my dear wife is preserved so well, is an especial mercy.

"*Sunday evening, Oct. 17th.*—This has been a *Sabbath.* We arranged the benches as well as we could, set up a kind of extempore pulpit, placed on it the church-Bible, which had been picked out of the ruins, and at ten o'clock rang the first bell.—This sweet and solemn invitation, to come and see the beauty of the Lord, and worship in His temple, again sounded over hill and dale: and it was responded to. The hills, now divested of

trees, soon revealed long lines of people, picking their way among the debris left by the storm, and often obliged to leave the usual path to pass round a fallen tree. By the time of ringing the second bell, a large company had assembled, presenting an extraordinary spectacle among the ruins. The children were ranged in two of the galleries, and their heads appearing above the jagged tops of the walls, had a strange appearance at a distance. Br. Prince gave out No. 662, which was sung with much feeling, and then we prayed the Litany. By this time, a considerable number had assembled outside, who could get no opportunity to hear. I, therefore, took them down to the missionaries' burying-ground, as being tolerably free from nails, glass, &c. There, a box was placed under a clump of bamboos, which once produced a grateful shade, but now afforded little more shelter than a bundle of fishing-rods would have done. Still, they served to mitigate the violence of the breeze; so, with a handkerchief tied over my head, I stood up and addressed about 200 of my feltow-sinners, for whom Christ died. It was a very solemn meeting, marked by not a few sighs and tears. The circumstances of the place contributed no little to this. At our feet were the humble, peaceful graves of those servants of the Lord, who now rest from their labours, while all around us, far and near, were the awful proofs of the Lord's mighty power. Meetings for the candidates and congregation, closed the day's proceedings. In the latter, we meditated with hearts deeply bowed, on the striking text for the day, (Matt. viii. 20.) Our interviews with many of our Brethren and Sisters, were deeply affecting. The escapes of most were almost miraculous,—of some, strikingly so. In a great number of instances, the houses tenanted by lame and infirm persons, were preserved in the midst of ruin. Before leaving the place, the people promised, at Br. P.'s request, to come and assist in gathering together the fragments of the buildings, so that we may save what may be useful. It is a curious circumstance, that amid the torrents of rain, one house was consumed to ashes by the lightning. I did not at first credit this, but so many testify to the truth of it, that I can no longer doubt it.

"Large fragments of the school-house were carried to a distance of between 300 and 400 yards. A piece of sheet-lead from the verandah-roof was carried over the top of the house to a distance of about 30 yards. Our stable, a rotten old building, was quite blocked up with fragments from the church, but the horses were not iujured. The more closely we examine our dwelling-house, the more we are surprised to find it hold together.

"*Monday* 18*th*.—A week since the disaster. How much mercy have we experienced since that time! The breeze blows fresh this morning, and makes us feel wretched.

"This letter has been written, as you will have seen, at odd times, so please to excuse its many imperfections. It would be

well just to mention, that it would be impossible to say, with absolute certainty, from what quarter the wind blew at any particular point of time. The most confident statement can be but an approximation to the truth.

"P.S.—I find Barbadoes has felt no hurricane. What shall we do? Must this place be given up? It would require, at least, £2000 to rebuild it. The Island can do nothing. May the Lord help us!"

From Br. W. A. Prince.

MONTGOMERY, Oct. 19th, 1847.

"DEAR BROTHER,

"Methinks I see you almost ready to let the letters that come from Tobago drop out of your hand. I send you an extract of the Diary made by our Teacher, and my time will not permit my looking over it. You will find, on reading the accounts, how mercifully we have all been preserved. We do not know how to be sufficiently thankful to the Lord. Indeed, when we hear the reports from almost every one we meet, each has a tale to tell of a most wonderful escape from death or bodily injury—not but that many are now laid up by a bruise or a cut, or a cold taken by exposure on that memorable night, or since that time. What most surprises me is, how the people have found a place to put their heads in at night; and although a week has passed, yet only here and there a little shantie is to be seen, with occasionally a frame that is either thatched or is ready for it. The greatest suffering we fear is to come, as the grounds of most of the people are so much injured, that as soon as time will permit, they will have to plant sweet potatoes and cassava. The former require four months at least before they can begin to search for a root, and the cassava takes from nine months to a year.

"We have had a most interesting sabbath. All our people assembled, with their clothes washed; for while our Negro Brethren were at work on the houses, their wives and daughters collected what articles of clothing, &c., they could find, went to the rivers, and washed them. It must be said to the credit of these people, that in general they are industrious and prudent, and also very kind to each other. Though some of our people have hard work to make all ends meet, yet they are trying to get up little places for those widows and fatherless children, that have no man to render them any assistance. Hardly an individual has asked for the least help, though we could not help assisting a little; and it may well be called a *little;* but such as it was, we could scarcely bear to receive the expression of thanks which it called forth. How thankful the people were for the blankets received through

the medium of the Friendly Society! They said, "De blanket keep me warm, though him wet enough, yet him keep me warm?"

"Whenever I go into the Dispensary to give out medicine, I cannot refrain from thanking our Saviour for preserving its contents; not the value of one shilling having been injured."

Extract of the Diary of MONTGOMERY.

"We cannot be too thankful, that the thought of an earthquake never passed the minds of any of us, or we should have been afraid of remaining in the premises, and, like many of our Negro Brethren and Sisters, after escaping from their fallen houses, we should have taken refuge in the Guinea grass, and borne the pelting of the pitiless storm. The kitchen being only a little injured, we were able to get a little hot coffee—truly refreshing, after all our bodily and mental sufferings, and the thorough drenching we had experienced.

"About quarter to 7 o'clock, on the 12th, I walked up to Dr. Hope's, and found the road obstructed with trees and branches, so that it was with difficulty, I could proceed. At Dr. Hope's, I found Mrs. Hope, her brother W. Cruickshanks was also there for shelter, Dr. Hope's cottage being little injured, compared with all others in every direction. He had both his knees hurt by being blown by the hurricane against something. The roof of Prospect great house was blown in, and the works thrown down. The watchman was killed. Riseland great house and the works are all in ruins. The Hon. H. R. Hamilton retreated to the overseer's house, which was left; but almost all the Negro-houses are down.

"Br. Muentzer, to our great joy, writes that only a few panes of glass are broken in the chapel at *Moriah.* The school-house was removed four inches, and the stable shoved on one side, while nearly all the people's dwellings were down; but the great house of the adjoining estate, and the works, were comparatively little injured.

"With all the distress and sickness, our people never murmur; but say, 'The Lord is too good to us all.'

"13*th.*—To-day several gentlemen from the estates near us, and the Hon. K. Dowland, called to see if we were alive, and offered us accommodations, such as they had, should we require any. We regret to learn, that the parish churches both at St. Patrick's and Scarborough, and also the Wesleyan chapel, in the latter town, have suffered greatly; and that on an estate near Scarborough, the great house was washed down into the river, and the manager's wife and children with difficulty escaped with their lives.

"14*th.*—We were happy to make the hearts of many glad, by giving the heads of families around us some half-dozen salt herrings each, also to some of the poor old sisters, who came up to

inquire how the Lord had carried us through. They said, they prayed not only for themselves, but also for their ministers, their wives, and children, that the Lord would preserve them, so that those who were left might get a little comfort. One might suppose that, at such a time, the people would think only of themselves, one and another finding their plantations and banana trees all down; yet they either brought or sent us a part of their gleanings.

"It is most cheering to see how kind the people are to one another. The thatcher fixes the roof of a brother whose roof is off, that the owner and neighbours might have a shelter from the night air and cold rain; while the other, in return, being a carpenter, is at work at the frame of his neighbour's house, that, when finished, the former may thatch his own, and have a shelter for himself and family. Thanks to the Lord, the sun has set, after a fine day, and darkness covers the land. The sound of the hammer is less heard, and one after another has to stop work, which would not be the case, were the moon about the full; *then* they would work most of the night, but now they must stop.

"The school-house that was, is so broken up, that very little of it will be of any use, except to assist in erecting dwellings for teachers, &c. &c., which are indispensable.

"It appears from this helper's account, that the greatest injury has been done to the Big Woods on the north side of the island, where serpents of an enormous size have had their habitation for ages; that the Big Woods look, as though the people had gone to work with their mascheats (axes are hardly known) and cut those stately trees of the hardest wood to the tops of their trunks."

From Br. T. L. Badham.

MONTGOMERY, June 24th, 1847.

"DEAR BROTHER,

"We have raised by church-collections in our congregations about 16*l.* for the distressed Irish. I alluded to this in my letter of March 17th, and also mentioned the circumstances of the case. The proposition was made by our kind friend Mr. Thornton, when we had as yet heard nothing about the need of assistance in our congregations in Ireland, and had also formed no plan of our own. Having once acceded to his proposal, we felt we could not retract for the sake of sending it to our own people. I believe the contributions from this island went to the 'British Association for the Relief of Distress,' &c. Our peasant-congregation got praise enough, I assure you, in the island papers, for what they did. Antigua has certainly beaten us this time. It is much to their credit, and I think will produce good effects.

"Our newly formed Missionary Associations I may compare to some stirring bantling, which gives evident tokens of liveliness and a good constitution, but which must still be very judiciously handled and carefully treated. We also wish to give our people legitimate information, as well as to get their contributions. Our Mission-Conference has appointed Missionary sermons to be preached in both places twice a year with collections. The first will be preached at Moriah, D. V., July 11th, and here on the following Sunday. May our dear Saviour enable us to hit the golden mean with regard to these things! A little too much keenness on the one hand, or too much laxity on the other, would easily bring all out of equilibrium.

"Amid all circumstances of a trying nature, our congregations have increased in intelligence, and, I humbly trust, also in grace. At the close of last year the number under our care had increased by 187 over the corresponding period a year previously. Our day-scholars number higher than ever before. On Sunday, June 20th, the attendance at our Sunday-Schools, adult and juvenile, was 401. The contributions of our congregations are increasing. We have also two flourishing Missionary Associations, and a lending library, well made use of. There are no signs of retrogression.

"My Ebo researches produce necessarily very meagre results. Nevertheless, I have ascertained the followiug particulars of the grammatical structure of the language. The adjective follows the noun. The nominative and objective cases of nouns are the same in form, but personal pronouns seem to be inflected. There appears to be no difference in form between the singular and plural numbers of nouns: the plural seems to be formed by the addition of some qualifying word. The pronunciation is very difficult, abounding in usual sounds, often combined in an awkward manner with consonants. These nasals Oldendorp either did not observe, or found it impossible to express them, so that the words given by him as specimens of Ebo, though correct enough, would hardly be understood by the Eboes if read as written by him. The Congo, of whieh I have also collected some words, seems a softer language, and has not so many nasels."

From Br. W. A. Prince.

MONTGOMERY, Sept. 15th, 1847.

"DEAR BROTHER

"Yesterday I visited the school we have lately established at Burleigh Castle, near Scarborough, and was pleased to find the children becoming a little more manageable, and getting on as fast as can be expected. Mr. M. Cruickshanks and Mr. Ellice,

who are largely interested in the property, have kindly promised to do everything in their power for the furtherance of the desired object. For my part, I feel ashamed that a gentleman who came among us an entire stranger should manifest so much interest in our schools, while we are doing so little to deserve it. O! that our dear Saviour may make us more willing to spend and be spent for those who are placed under our care.

"It is of the Lord's mercy, that I am still permitted to labour in his vineyard, for you must know, that, on Monday evening the 6th instant, I met with a serious accident. Opening the door of our room that leads on to the front verandah, one step landed me on the brick platform, five feet from the ground, and as much from the verandah, whence I rolled on to the pavement. The stairs had been cut away, and the handrail was also gone; all which I had forgotten at the moment. Br. Badham heard my fall, and when he came, not perceiving me breathe, he thought life was extinct. One or two more of our Brethren soon came and lifted me up into the hall. Dr. Hope was sent for, who soon arrived, but I was already partially recovered. He was surprised to find my pulse as though nothing had happened, and no limb broken or dislocated. It was, however, with difficulty that I could turn from side to side in my bed, having struck my side, hip, and head, and strained my neck, owing to the posture I was in for some time after my fall. The following morning, I was able to get up and do all my official duties as usual, and since that time I have felt no bad effects."

ANTIGUA.

From Br. B. Harvey.

St. John's, Aug. 26th, 1847.

"Dear Brother,

"We have reason to be thankful for the health and harmony in which we are permitted to do our work. Br. Coates is settled in Gracehill with Br. Baum, and finds plenty to do in the service of that large congregation.

"Our apprehensions of stormy weather, (this being our hurricane month,) begin to be quieted, since we have had some good rains, with the needful thunder and lightning; aud the air, which was before exceedingly sultry, so as to make us apprehensive of earthquake or hurricane, has become agreeable and salubrious; that is, if you keep out of the streets of the town, which are generally quite oppressive with heat between the morning and evening.

"Our people seem to receive very cordially our pleadings for the Training-School, and though our first collections may not prove to

be great, yet I am fully confident, that this important cause will meet with a steady support as our people become better acquainted with it. Several have called upon me with kindly offerings, to follow up the collections made here in town, with 'a little more,' as they said, 'to make the pot boil.'

"Having a holiday on Tuesday last, (a rare thing with me), I spent it in visiting Br. and Sr. Hamilton, at the Training-School near Cedar-Hall, and was much gratified with the promising state of things there. It is truly interesting, to see such a select company of little boys, of perhaps every shade of colour, brought together from Antigua, St. Kitt's, and St. Thomas, and under the tuition of Br. Julian of the stock of Israel; both he and they being engaged in preparation for service in the gospel of Him who is to be the light of the Gentiles, and the glory of His people Israel. 'May they be sons of the prophets,' (Acts iii. 25), 'in becoming holy men of God,' (2 Peter i. 24), 'diligent in Scripture truth,' (1 Peter i. 10), 'and fitted, as scribes well instructed unto the kingdom of Heaven, to bring forth things new and old,' (Matth. xiii. 52), 'whether as teachers, evangelists, or pastors,' (Ephes. iv. 11), and may they hereafter be set for a blessing in a Church of God,' (1 Cor. xii. 28).

"The disappointment we have had with the young man who went from hence, with the Basle Missionaries to Akropong, forcibly commends the Training-School to us, as a means for the formation and more matured development of the character of candidates for the ministry, before they are extensively engaged in service in Africa. Not that I look for perfection in the Institution, or in those who may be sent forth from it as approved of man, or, indeed. in anything whatever in the church or in the world, until 'that which is perfect is come, and God shall be all in all:' but it is according to reason, and to the word of God, that everything should be judged of by its own fruits, which require time for ripening, or being fully displayed or restrained in the growth; and the declarations of Holy Scripture make this fully applicable to the Training-Institution, both in the more immediate, and the yet distant, object it has in view, in the tuition and moral and religious training of its subjects, (Matt. xiii. 12, and xxv. 24; 1 Tim. iii. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13). I must beg your indulgence for my quotations, for I must think them, if I do not write them, and I cannot give them up, from being the rule and guidance of my own thoughts. I have been amused and struck with a sensible remark of one of our helpers, 'that there should be another preparatory school for girls, to prepare wives for the teachers, as it would not be likely, that after the superior training intended for them, they will be likely to find suitable persons of their own colour to become 'helps meet' for them when the time should come that they should marry.'"

"Sept. 27th, 1847.

"Br. *Miller*, of the Mico Institution, starts by this steamer for England. Being ordered home by the doctor peremptorily, on account of his broken down state of health, he will of course see you, and, no doubt, tell you of my being affected by something that may prove serious—œdema in my left leg. I will hope for the best, and do the best I can, but my heart is sometimes ready to fail me, in the prospect of my remaining much longer exposed to the exhaustion of this climate.

From Br. Wm. Humberstone.

LEBANON, June 10th, 1847.

"DEAR BROTHER,

With our movements since my last, you are doubtless well acquaited, viz. our removal to Antigua, and our appointment to Lebanon. Here, also it is our desire to be instrumental, in some degree, in bringing souls to the knowledge of the truth, and gathering into the fold such as shall be saved; but the longer I am engaged in the work of the ministry, the more am I compelled to exclaim with the Apostle, 'Who is sufficient for these things?' Like the prophet of old—our commission is to preach unto dry bones, and to say, 'O! ye dry bones, hear ye the word of the Lord;' —and while, as the effect of this preaching, we may see 'bone come to his bone,' and 'the sinews, and flesh, and skin, come up upon them and cover them,' 'while a visible congregation may be gathered, still our prayers must be, 'Come forth, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' It is our support and encouragement, that the Lord's hand is not shortened, and that His promises shall be fulfilled, for we have often made painful experience, that the enemy of souls is at work among those committed to our charge.

"I have now an interesting case to mention, which I think will afford you pleasure. A coloured man residing in the village immediately adjoining Lebanon, and who is an occasional attendant on our services, came to me the other day, requesting the loan of some accounts of our Missions. I accordingly sent him the No. of the 'Periodical Accounts' for September, 1846. In a few days I received it back, accompanied by a note and four bits, or 1*s.* 4*d.* sterling, towards the object mentioned in p. 478.

"A commencement having thus been made, perhaps some of our friends in England may be induced to follow the example of Mark Stephens in Antigua, so that Charles Jonas, at Houtkloof, may soon have his wish gratified, and become possessed of a Dutch and English Dictionary.*

"Our public services continue to be well attended. We have

lately had a new class of hearers, in the persons of some of the Portuguese, who have lately been introduced into the island from Madeira, but, I believe, there is scarcely one who understands any English. While, therefore, it affords us pleasure to see them in the church, it is sad to think, that as yet they can derive no benfit from what they hear, 'he that speaketh being a barbarian unto them.' It has occured to my mind, that if we had a few Portugese Testaments and some tracts, we might be able to do some good among them. Do you think you could procure a small grant of Testaments and tracts for this purpose ?"**

*This suggestion has been followed out, and a sufficient sum raised by a few Brethren for the purchase of a Lexicon for Charles Jonas.

** A grant of Portugese Testaments has recently been made by the Committee of the British and Foreign Bible Society, for distribution among these poor people.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

The sum of one hundred and twenty-four Dollars, ($124.00) being subscriptions and donations from Brethren, Sisters and friends in the city of New York, which have been received through the hands of Revd. D. Bigler subsequent to the last *general* Meeting of the Ministers Aid Society in this place, is hereby thankfully acknowledged.

J. C. BRICKENSTEIN,
Treasurer of the Min. Aid Society.

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